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Commission for Social Development

Report on the thirty-seventh session (9–19 February 1999)

Economic and Social Council

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Summary

At its thirty-seventh session, the Commission for Social Development considered two topics under its restructured agenda and multi-year programme of work, namely the priority themes "Social services for all", and "Initiation of the overall review of the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development"; and the review of relevant United Nations plans and programmes of action pertaining to the situation of social groups.

With regard to the theme of social services for all, the Commission adopted a resolution which contained agreed conclusions, and decided to transmit them to the Economic and Social Council for the Council's consideration at its substantive session of 1999, as well as to the Preparatory Committee for the Special Session of the General Assembly on the Implementation of the Outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and Further Initiatives, in 2000, including the Preparatory Committee's first substantive session (17–28 May 1999).

The agreed conclusions contain analysis and recommendations for action to promote the efficient and effective delivery of social services for all as a contribution to overall social development. They set out general principles and goals, suggest priorities for delivery and provision of social services, discuss the need for partnership between Governments and the other social actors, stress the importance of information, encourage the mobilization of resources and establish parameters for international cooperation for social services.

Concerning the initiation of the overall review of the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development, the Commission adopted a resolution inviting Governments to provide additional inputs, in particular proposals concerning possible further initiatives, to the Preparatory Committee to facilitate its work at its first substantive session. Also, the Secretary-General is requested to update the two reports on the preliminary assessment of and on further initiatives for the implementation of the outcome of the Summit, before their presentation to the Preparatory Committee at its first substantive session in May 1999, reflecting the proposals and suggestions made during the discussions in the Commission, as well as any additional inputs submitted by Governments.

In connection with its review of plans and programmes of action pertaining to the situation of social groups, the Commission adopted a resolution on the International Year of Older Persons: towards a society for all ages, in which, *inter alia*, it urged States to present to the General Assembly at the four plenary meetings of its fifty-fourth session that are being devoted to follow-up to the Year, their national reports on observances of the Year, policy approaches to ageing, and best practices for a society for all ages; and requested the Secretary-General to solicit the views of States, non-governmental organizations and the private sector on updating the International Plan of Action on Ageing and on the desirability and feasibility of convening in the year 2002 a review of the outcome of the World Assembly on Ageing including the interrelationship of ageing and development.

The Commission also recommended to the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council, the adoption of a draft resolution concerning policies and programmes involving youth, in which the Assembly would, *inter alia*, take note of the Lisbon Declaration on Youth Policies and Programmes, adopted by the World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth, and of the holding of the third session of the World Youth Forum of the United Nations System, held in Braga, Portugal in 1998; would recommend that the second World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth be organized under the aegis of the United Nations and take note with appreciation of the offer made by the

Government of Turkey to host it; and would welcome the offer of the Government of Senegal to host the fourth session of the World Youth Forum of the United Nations System in the year 2000.

A panel discussion was held with invited experts to consider the priority theme of social services for all and a panel on youth was organized; two dialogues with non-governmental organizations were arranged on the priority themes. There were also presentations by the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund on basic education for all.

The Commission also reviewed the proposed programme of work of the Division for Social Policy and Development for the biennium 2000–2001, and the report of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development for the period 1997–1998. It renominated five existing members and nominated a new member to the Board, for confirmation by the Economic and Social Council.

Finally, the Commission recommended that the Economic and Social Council approve the provisional agenda and documentation for its thirty-eighth session in 2000.

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Chapter I

Matters calling for action by the Economic and Social Council or brought to its attention

A. Draft resolution

1. The Commission for Social Development recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Policies and programmes involving youth*

The Economic and Social Council

Recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

"*The General Assembly*,

"*Recalling* its resolution 50/81 of 14 December 1995, by which it adopted the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond, annexed thereto, as an integral part of that resolution,

"*Recalling also* its resolutions 32/135 of 16 December 1977 and 36/17 of 19 November 1981 by which it adopted guidelines for the improvement of the channels of communication between the United Nations and youth and youth organizations and 40/14 of 18 November 1985 entitled 'International Youth Year: Participation, Development, Peace' by which the guidelines for further planning and suitable follow-up in the field of youth, as contained in the report of the Advisory Committee for the International Youth Year on its fourth session, held at Vienna from 25 March to 3 April 1985,[1] were endorsed,

"*Noting especially* that, in paragraph 123 of the Programme of Action, current regional and international conferences of ministers responsible for youth affairs in Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean and Western Asia were invited to intensify cooperation among each other and to consider meeting regularly at the international level under the aegis of the United Nations to provide an effective forum for a global dialogue on youth-related issues,

"*Noting* that, in paragraph 124 of the Programme of Action, youth-related bodies and organizations of the United Nations system were invited to cooperate with the above-mentioned conferences,

"*Recalling* that, in paragraph 125 of the Programme of Action, the World Youth Forum of the United Nations System was invited to contribute to the implementation of the Programme of Action through the identification and promotion of joint initiatives to further its objectives so that they better reflected the interests of youth,

"*Recalling also* Economic and Social Council resolution 1997/55 of 23 July 1997 and General Assembly resolution 52/83 of 12 December 1997, in which the Council and the Assembly welcomed the invitation of the Government of Portugal to host the World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth, held at Lisbon from 8 to 12 August 1998,

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* For the discussion, see chap. II, paras. 33–36.

[1] A/40/256, annex.

"*Welcoming* the World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth, hosted by the Government of Portugal in cooperation with the United Nations, as well as the support of the Government of Portugal for the holding of the third session of the World Youth Forum of the United Nations System, held at Braga, Portugal, from 2 to 7 August 1998,

"1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond,[2] and the Lisbon Declaration on Youth Policies and Programmes, adopted by the World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth;[3]

"2. *Takes note* of the holding of the third session of the World Youth Forum of the United Nations System, in Braga, Portugal, 1998, and appreciates the support of the Government of Portugal;

"3. *Calls upon* all States, all United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies, the regional commissions and the intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned, in particular youth organizations, to make all possible efforts towards the implementation of the Programme of Action and to consider, within its framework, the appropriate ways and means to follow up the Lisbon Declaration, in accordance with their experience, situation and priorities;

"4. *Invites* all relevant United Nations programmes, funds, specialized agencies and other bodies within the United Nations system, as well as other intergovernmental organizations and regional financial institutions, to give greater support to national youth policies and programmes within their country programmes as a way to follow up the World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth;

"5. *Reiterates* the call made by the World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth to strengthen the Youth Unit of the United Nations Secretariat, through the provision of all necessary regular staffing and resources, for the fulfilment of its mandate, including to effectively assist in the implementation of the Programme of Action;

"6. *Encourages* the regional commissions to follow up the World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth in their respective regions, in coordination with regional meetings of ministers responsible for youth and regional youth non-governmental organizations, and to provide advisory services to support national youth policies and programmes in each region;

"7. *Endorses* the recommendation made by the World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth that 12 August be declared International Youth Day[4] and recommends that public information activities be organized at all levels to support the Day as a way to promote better awareness, especially among youth, of the Programme of Action;

"8. *Invites* the Secretary-General to participate actively in the effective follow-up to the World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth, bearing in mind General Assembly resolution 52/83 and Economic and Social Council resolution 1997/55 and within the framework of the Programme of Action;

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[2] A/54/59.

[3] Document WCMRY/1998/28, chap. I, resolution 1.

[4] Ibid., resolution 2.

"9. *Recommends* that the second World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth be organized under the aegis of the United Nations and takes note with appreciation of the offer made by the Government of Turkey to organize the second World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth together with the fifth session of the World Youth Forum of the United Nations System and the World Youth Festival;[5]

"10. *Welcomes* the offer of the Government of Senegal to host the fourth session of the World Youth Forum of the United Nations System in the year 2000;[6]

"11. *Calls upon* Member States, all United Nations bodies and non-governmental organizations to continue to implement fully the guidelines for further planning and follow-up in the field of youth, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 40/14, and the guidelines for the improvement of the channels of communication between the United Nations and youth and youth organizations, adopted by the Assembly in its resolutions 32/135 and 36/17, and in particular to facilitate, in accordance with these resolutions, the activities of youth mechanisms that have been set up by youth and youth organizations;

"12. *Recognizes* the important role that could be played by the United Nations Youth Fund for the implementation of agreed programmes and mandates on youth, including the provision of support for youth activities promoting South-South cooperation;

"13. *Invites* all Governments, and intergovernmental and non-governmental institutions to contribute to the Fund and requests the Secretary-General to undertake appropriate actions to encourage contributions;

"14. *Recognizes* the important role of non-governmental youth organizations in the implementation of the Programme of Action at the national and international levels, and in the development and evaluation of national policies, in particular concerning youth, and encourages Governments to ensure that the perspective of young people is reflected in national policies and programmes;

"15. *Calls upon* all States, all United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies, the regional commissions and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to exchange knowledge and expertise on youth-related issues, upon setting up the ways and means to do so."

B. Draft decision

2. The Commission for Social Development recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft decision:

Report of the Commission for Social Development on its thirty-seventh session and provisional agenda and documentation for the thirty-eighth session of the Commission

The Economic and Social Council:

(a) Takes note of the report of the Commission for Social Development on its thirty-seventh session and endorses the resolutions and decisions adopted by the Commission;

[5] See E/CN.5/1999/14, annex.

[6] See A/54/66-E/1999/6.

(b) Approves the provisional agenda and documentation for the thirty-eighth session of the Commission set out below.

Provisional agenda and documentation for the thirty-eighth session of the Commission for Social Development

1. Election of officers.

2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

3. Follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development:

In preparation for the special session of the General Assembly on the implementation of the outcome of the summit and further initiatives, the Commission will review and appraise progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development. It will also identify areas where further initiatives are needed for consideration by the Preparatory Committee for the Special Session of the General Assembly on the Implementation of the Outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and Further Initiatives, in regard to discussing how these initiatives would further assist implementation.

(a) Priority theme: contribution of the Commission to the overall review of the implementation of the outcome of the Summit;

(b) Review of relevant United Nations plans and programmes of action pertaining to the situation of social groups.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the comprehensive assessment of the overall level of implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development

Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Commission's Special Rapporteur on Disability

Report of the Secretary-General on the International Year of Older Persons, 1999

4. Provisional agenda for the thirty-ninth session of the Commission.

5. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its thirty-eighth session.

C. Decision calling for action by the Council

3. The following decision adopted by the Commission for Social Development calls for action by the Economic and Social Council:

Decision 37/101

Nomination of members of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development

At its 11th meeting, on 18 February 1999, on the proposal of the Chairman, the Commission for Social Development decided to renominate, for confirmation by the Economic and Social Council, the following candidates for membership in the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development for a two-year term beginning

on 1 July 1999: Harris Mutio Mule (Kenya), Valery Tishkov (Russian Federation), Björn Hettne (Sweden), Frances Stewart (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) and Jonathan Moore (United States of America). The Commission also decided to nominate Jacques Roger Baudot (France) as a new member to the Board, for a period of four years ending on 30 June 2003.

D. Resolutions and decisions brought to the attention of the Council

4. The following resolutions adopted by the Commission for Social Development are brought to the attention of the Economic and Social Council:

Resolution 37/1

Social services for all*

The Commission for Social Development

Having considered the priority theme for 1999 "Social services for all",

Decides to adopt the agreed conclusions contained in the annex to the present resolution and to transmit them to the Preparatory Committee for the Special Session of the General Assembly on the Implementation of the Outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and Further Initiatives at its first substantive session in May 1999 and to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1999 in July.

Annex

Agreed conclusions on social services for all

Introduction

1. Social services are an integral part of, and positively contribute to, social and economic development. Investment in social services will contribute to poverty eradication, peace, equity and equality, social progress and cohesion, economic productivity, productive employment and full participation of all people in society. In this respect, it is of fundamental importance that Governments either provide social services or ensure universal and equitable access to social services — especially, in times of economic recession. It is furthermore essential that economic, including fiscal, policies pursued by Governments support and encourage the social goals to which they committed themselves at the World Summit for Social Development. International cooperation to enhance social development would facilitate the provision of basic services for all.

2. The primary responsibility for ensuring provision of and universal access to social services rests with Governments. In many countries, the provision of social services significantly benefits from the support of active citizens, non-governmental organizations and voluntary groups, as well as trade unions and private businesses, but Governments have the main responsibility, acting through international, national, regional and local policies, to create an enabling environment to promote the establishment and maintenance of efficient social services and to ensure gender and racial equality and equity in access to social services.

* For the discussion, see chap. II, paras. 17–19.

3. The Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development[7] recognizes the need to ensure the provision of social services for all, so as to meet the essential needs of the entire population, in particular those excluded from social services; to respond to the needs that exist at different stages in an individual's lifespan; and to take into account the requirements of population groups with specific needs.

A. General principles and goals

4. Universal access by all to social services is a central goal for social and economic development policies. The major objective of social services is to contribute to and to facilitate greater equity and equality of opportunities for every member of society in order to promote the strengthening of social cohesion and to avoid social exclusion. Therefore, ensuring that high-quality basic social services are available to all must be a high priority for all Governments, requiring them to ensure that the implementation of the Copenhagen Programme of Action is a central political goal, to mobilize the necessary resources, to enhance political will and to recognize the importance of accountability, transparency and participation.

5. In all countries, to a greater or lesser extent, provision of or access to social services is not available to all people at all times. Lack of development is a major obstacle to the provision of social services in many countries. Further significant obstacles include competing governmental priorities and inadequate resources.

6. Governments and other social service providers face a changing environment which poses further challenges and calls for new ideas. The planning and provision of services should take into account changing family circumstances, gender equality and changing responsibilities of women and men, shifts in population age structure, and mass migration and displacement of people.

7. Access to social services for all is essential to enable people to satisfy their basic human needs and to live lives of dignity, safety and creativity while participating fully in society. Services should be based on concepts of full participation and non-discrimination, thereby facilitating greater equity and equality of opportunities for every member of society.

8. Special efforts should be made to ensure that all social services are accessible to those who are living in poverty, are disadvantaged or socially excluded, or have special needs. Services should be adapted to ensure that they remain appropriate to the needs of these groups.

9. Special attention should be given to providing emergency relief to persons suffering from the impact of natural or man-made disasters, and to the expeditious reconstruction of social services after such disasters in order to meet the basic needs of the affected populations. International cooperation in such situations is, in addition to national efforts, an important element in addressing these situations.

10. The elimination of discrimination against women and the empowerment and full participation of women in all areas of life and at all levels should be priority objectives at the national as well as the international level, and an intrinsic part of social development. Services should be gender-sensitive and designed to take into account and serve the specific needs of girls and women. Public agencies and non-governmental organizations should involve women at all stages of decision-making in the planning, management and delivery of social services. Women, especially in developing countries, often bear the negative

[7] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

consequences of, and the brunt of responsibilities resulting from, a lack of social service provision, among other factors. Policies should recognize their contributions and provide them with support in these roles.

11. Policy concepts devised to provide and maintain services have to take into account the differences in the social and economic development of individual States. Variations in the range and coverage of services among and within countries may reflect both these different stages of development and cultural diversities. There are also important local and national differences affecting the needs of different population groups, and these should be reflected in policies and programmes.

B. Delivery and provision of social services to promote social development

12. It is the responsibility of the State to promote and protect all human rights — civil, political, social, economic, cultural — and the right to development. Efforts by each State to ensure social services for all are an important contribution to promoting and protecting all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all.

13. Universal access to social services contributes to realizing the objectives of social development, empowerment of people and efforts of national Governments aimed at poverty eradication. Provision of social services should target segments of society living in poverty, with a particular focus on under-served areas.

14. In the context of a people-centred development, social services contribute to the realization of all human rights, including economic, social and cultural rights, for all people, thus enabling them to take up responsibilities and to become active members of society. Social services for all is an important instrument for the eradication of poverty by securing access to basic facilities for the poor. The provision of social services may also help to prevent vulnerable people or groups from falling into poverty.

15. Those who provide or organize social services should assess in what manner services are delivered. Policies should aim to ensure the integration of social services into a system that combines a wide range of different services that are accessible and coordinated with each other and thus provide complementary help and support. The services should be of adequate quality, sensitive to the needs of the service users, and delivered in an innovative, efficient and cost-effective way. For that purpose, for example:

(a) Services should be designed in a manner that best serves their purpose and the needs of the targeted groups;

(b) Several services could be grouped around a basic service to respond to several needs at the same time;

(c) Services could be provided at non-traditional sites where people naturally congregate;

(d) The hours when services are available should be responsive to people's needs.

16. Special attention should be given to improving the quality of management of social services and to the ongoing training of staff. Personnel responsible for the designing and delivery of social services, especially personnel dealing directly with users, should be respectful of the dignity of the beneficiaries. It is important to establish standards for measuring service delivery, based on a common understanding of needs and measurable results. Services should be evaluated on a continuing basis and feedback provided and assessed. The design of services should include provision for information gathering, monitoring and evaluation.

17. The design and delivery of social services should pay due attention to the needs of the individual throughout the entire lifespan, recognizing the family as the basic unit of society and acknowledging that it plays a key role in social development, and access to and delivery of social services. In different cultural, political and social systems, various forms of the family exist. Social services that respond to the needs of children and youth would also contribute to the building of a society for all ages. Older persons should be guaranteed full participation and non-discrimination in respect of access to services that seek to ensure that they continue to have active lives and participate in society. Access to social services adapted to the needs of every person throughout the lifespan would contribute to persons' being able to grow old securely and with their dignity and independence preserved.

18. Persons with disabilities and, where appropriate, their families and advocates, should have access to information regarding rights and available services, at all stages and in forms or formats that are accessible to them. Systems for provision of social services must not exclude or discriminate against people with disabilities. Delivery of services to people with disabilities should ensure their functional independence for active participation in the life of society. Where financially feasible, respite care and attendant services should be made available for families that include a person with a disability. Appropriately designed social services would enable persons with disabilities to realize their full human potential.

19. In view of the scale of international migration in an increasingly globalized world, attention also needs to be given by Governments to access to, and delivery of, social services for documented migrants and their families. Non-governmental organizations are encouraged to continue to develop these kinds of services.

20. The concerns and basic human needs of undocumented migrants should also be addressed in accordance with the Copenhagen Programme of Action.

C. Partnership

21. Governments have primary responsibility for providing or ensuring that basic services are available to all. The public sector plays a key role in securing universal access by all people to social services. Civil society can play an important role in planning, organizing and providing social services. Public authorities should cooperate with all relevant actors of civil society in order to offer adequate coverage and a wide range of services to the users. Decisions about services can be best made with the full involvement of all those who have a stake in them.

22. There are many forms of partnership between the State and civil society. Depending on the circumstances, different options could be considered concerning how this partnership might take effect. In some instances, Governments may wish to be the main service providers and organize delivery directly with assistance from partners; in other cases, the role of Government might be to establish or guarantee national minimum standards and to enable all relevant actors of civil society, including volunteers, to take a more direct role in provision and delivery of services.

23. Partnership should be based on shared goals, mutual respect and tolerance of different views, joint decision-making as appropriate, and joint commitment to the process. Partnership can be strengthened through mechanisms that facilitate the exchange of experiences, improved standards and feedback concerning service delivery. All actors involved in the provision and delivery of social services should be accountable to the users of the services.

24. In many countries around the world, there are people who still lack access to the most basic services. Community participation in defining and assessing needs and in planning

the provision of social services should be encouraged, so as to ensure social services for all, including the poor and disadvantaged. The international community, national Governments and community-based organizations need to forge a partnership to undertake poverty and social impact assessments and to plan strategies for the provision of universal access to basic social services for all.

D. Information

25. The provision of and access to information are an essential attribute of a democratic society and should be seen as crucial to promoting social services. Priority should be given to improving access to information for all people, in particular through channels that are accessible and affordable for all, such as radio broadcasts and public libraries. Access to information should be seen as crucial. Information management is essential for planning and delivering appropriate, efficient and effective social services. Information about available social services should be easy to find and easy to understand by everyone.

26. The possibilities created by technological advances for making information more widely available, particularly to the under-served and disadvantaged, should be fully explored and exploited. Partnership between government, civil society and the media, both public and private, should be encouraged. Mass media are encouraged to provide forums for a debate on the design, provision and maintenance of social services.

E. Mobilization of resources for social services

27. It is important to synchronize economic and social policy so that social service provision furthers both social and economic objectives. All members of society benefit from an educated, healthy, informed, secure, responsible and tolerant citizenry. Investment in services to meet basic human needs benefits not only the users of services but the community at large. This is the rationale for allocating appropriate resources from public revenue to provide social services. Government funding of, or other means of ensuring, basic social services are also essential for equitable access and sustainability in service provision.

28. Public authorities often face budgetary constraints in the provision of social services and possibilities for coping with these difficulties vary among countries. It remains necessary to ensure adequate sources of revenue. Governments should explore new approaches, including restructuring their budgets, to acquire adequate financial resources for creating and securing social services that meet the basic human needs of all people. For example, during the last decade many countries have reduced the proportion of gross domestic product allocated to military expenditure. Reorientations of outlays allow allocation of increased financial resources to social services.

29. In order to expand revenues for funding social services, Governments should look into various existing options, as well as consider innovative approaches.

30. The efficiency of current expenditure within the public sector can be improved by focusing on outcomes rather than on inputs.

31. Resources also encompass the resources of the private sector, and those of the not-for-profit and voluntary sector. They comprise not only financial resources, but also resources in kind: the time and effort people devote to meeting their needs, and the skills, knowledge and capacities of people, including family networks and community-based organizations. Policies should be developed that allow all these resources, actual and latent, to be mobilized and deployed effectively.

32. A strong political commitment by the international community is needed to implement a strengthened international cooperation for development, including social development.

The mobilization of domestic and international financial resources for development from all sources is an essential component for the comprehensive and effective implementation of development. In this connection, enhanced efforts should be made for the mobilization and provision of new and additional financial resources for the development of developing countries. Despite an increase in private flows, official development assistance remains an essential source of external funding. Developed countries reaffirm the commitments undertaken to fulfil as soon as possible the agreed United Nations targets of 0.7 per cent of their gross national product for overall official development assistance and 0.15 per cent of their gross national product for official development assistance for the least developed countries. Donor countries that have met the 0.15 per cent target will seek to undertake to reach a level of 0.20 per cent. Further efforts are also needed to improve the effectiveness of official development assistance and to focus such aid on the poorest countries.

33. The importance of agreeing on a mutual commitment between interested developed and developing country partners to allocate, on average, 20 per cent of official development assistance and 20 per cent of the national budget, respectively, to basic social programmes is reaffirmed. The preparatory process of the special session of the General Assembly on the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and further initiatives should consider reports by the World Bank, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Population Fund, the Development Assistance Committee of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development, and other multilateral organizations on the various dimensions of the implementation of the 20/20 initiative. Such consideration may also entail looking into the relationship between the 20/20 initiative and the fulfilment of agreed targets of official development assistance as well as the contribution of the initiative to national efforts to promote social services.

F. International cooperation for social services

34. The international economic environment, through its impact on national economies, affects the capacity of many countries to provide and expand quality social services, particularly through the constraints that an unfavourable international economic environment imposes on national budgets and the resources of other social actors. For developing countries in particular, progress in regard to the external debt relief and improvements in the terms of trade would create additional opportunities to generate the resources, both public and private, required to expand and upgrade services.

35. The international community, including bilateral donors and multilateral development organizations, should also assist developing countries in ensuring the provision of basic social services, in particular during periods of economic difficulty. More socially sensitive approaches to structural adjustment are important. Efforts to integrate a social perspective into structural adjustment programmes should be further encouraged. Stabilization and structural adjustment packages must pay attention to social needs and contribute to the provision of safety nets for the most vulnerable and marginalized. In periods of economic downturn or crisis, basic social services should be ensured.

36. The process of movement of the countries with economies in transition towards a market structure was especially marked by significant downturns which have led to social tension and erosion of national systems of provision of social services. The international community should continue to assist the countries with economies in transition in their efforts to provide social services for all.

37. Globalization presents opportunities and challenges for the development process as well as risks and uncertainties. As a result of the process of globalization and growing

interdependence in the economic, social and environmental fields, an increasing number of issues cannot be effectively addressed by countries individually. Therefore, international cooperation is required. Where globalization has adverse effects on the provision of an access to social services for all, these effects need to be addressed by positive measures at the local, national, regional and international levels in order to minimize them and to promote social development.

38. A growing number of issues are acquiring an international dimension and international, or at least regional, coordination in the planning of services needs correspondingly greater attention. Economic policy and social policy are closely interrelated. In this connection, a study of how economic and social policies interact, and sometimes diverge, taking stock of existing studies in this field, could be a valuable contribution to preparations for the special session.

39. The United Nations system and other multilateral institutions can play an important role in fostering social development by supporting national efforts to promote and design quality social services. In this regard, it is important that those institutions cooperate closely. The expansion by multinational financial institutions, international and regional, of the financing of social investments is a positive development which deserves appropriate support, particularly, where appropriate, the maintaining of their capacities to lend at concessionary rates.

40. Workshops and seminars at international and regional levels should provide the opportunity for exchange of information and good practice, in order to promote innovative approaches to new needs and challenges, thus contributing to making social services more responsive and effective. Special attention should be given to exchanges among developing countries.

41. The Social Summit set such time-bound targets as achieving universal primary education by the year 2015, and specified improvements in infant, child and maternal mortality and in life expectancy. Achievement of these commitments requires substantial improvement in access to, and delivery, quality and financing of, social services. The Commission recommends that the special session reinforce those commitments by considering the national strategies and supportive international policies necessary for their achievement.

Resolution 37/2

International Year of Older Persons, 1999: towards a society for all ages*

The Commission for Social Development,

Recalling the Proclamation on Ageing,[8] adopted on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of the World Assembly on Ageing, in which the General Assembly, *inter alia*, decided to observe the year 1999 as the International Year of Older Persons,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 52/80 of 12 December 1997, in which the Assembly decided to devote four plenary meetings at its fifty-fourth session to the follow-up to the Year, which should take place at an appropriate global policy-making level,

* For the discussion, see chap. II, paras. 28–32.

[8] General Assembly resolution 47/5 of 16 October 1992, annex.

Recalling further Commission for Social Development decision 36/101,[9] adopted by the Commission at its thirty-sixth session, on the options for the future review and appraisal of the implementation of the International Plan of Action on Ageing,[10]

Welcoming recent contributions by Governments, non-governmental organizations and the private sector to the Trust Fund for Ageing which continues to play a small but catalytic role in enabling developing countries to respond to the ageing of their populations,

Welcoming also the support provided by States to the United Nations Secretariat in developing an Internet-accessible database on policies and programmes on ageing, intended to facilitate the review and appraisal of the implementation of major international documents on ageing, such as the International Plan of Action on Ageing and the United Nations Principles for Older Persons,[11]

Noting with satisfaction the efforts of the United Nations Secretariat to elaborate a framework for a long-term perspective strategy on ageing, including a research agenda for the twenty-first century, and policy approaches for a society for all ages,

1. *Acknowledges with appreciation* the note by the Secretary-General entitled "International Year of Older Persons and follow-up arrangements";[12]

2. *Also acknowledges with appreciation* the pioneering role of the non-governmental community in worldwide observances of the International Year of Older Persons and the International Day of Older Persons;

3. *Urges* States to present to the General Assembly at the four plenary meetings of its fifty-fourth session that are being devoted to follow-up to the Year, their national reports on observances of the Year, policy approaches to ageing and best practices for a society for all ages;

4. *Requests* the United Nations Secretariat to incorporate, as feasible, the experiences, policies and best practices reported by States into a long-term strategy on ageing, encompassing periodic reviews, for the consideration of the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session in the year 2001;

5. *Suggests* that the United Nations Secretariat further explore the feasibility of an ageing-related development index to be included in the *Human Development Report*;

6. *Invites* the regional commissions, within their respective mandates, to participate in monitoring and reviewing the implementation of the International Plan of Action on Ageing in their respective regions as well as to contribute to the development of a future long-term strategy on ageing;

7. *Urges* interested States, United Nations agencies and bodies, non-governmental organizations, research centres and the private sector to continue to support the United Nations programme on ageing in developing a long-term policy-oriented research agenda and in facilitating promotional and coordination activities for 1999 and beyond;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to solicit the views of States, non-governmental organizations and the private sector on updating the International Plan of Action on Ageing and on the desirability and feasibility of convening in the year 2002 a review of the outcome

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[9] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 6* (E/1998/26), chap. I, sect. B, decision 36/101.

[10] See *Report of the World Assembly on Ageing, Vienna, 26 July–6 August 1982* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.82.I.16), chap. VI.

[11] General Assembly resolution 46/91 of 16 December 1991, annex.

[12] E/CN.5/1999/8.

of the World Assembly on Ageing including the interrelationship of ageing and development;

9. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Commission for Social Development at its thirty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

Resolution 37/3

Initiation of the overall review of the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development*

The Commission for Social Development,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 51/202 of 17 December 1996, in which the Assembly decided that the Commission for Social Development, as the functional commission of the Economic and Social Council with the primary responsibility for follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development, and for review of the implementation of the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development[13] and Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development,[14] would undertake work in 1999–2000 for the preparation of the special session of the Assembly in the year 2000 on the implementation of the outcome of the Summit and further initiatives, in accordance with its programme of work as set out in Council resolution 1996/7 of 22 July 1996,

Recalling also paragraph (a) of decision 3,[15] adopted by the Preparatory Committee for the Special Session of the General Assembly on the Implementation of the Outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and Further Initiatives at its organizational session in May 1998, in which the Preparatory Committee recommended that the Commission be entrusted with the responsibility of acting as the forum for national reporting, benefiting from a sharing of experiences gained and thus in 1999 and 2000 identifying areas where further initiatives were needed for consideration by the Preparatory Committee to discuss how those initiatives would further assist implementation,

Having considered the issue of initiation of the overall review of the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the reports of the Secretary-General on the preliminary assessment of and on further initiatives for the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development;[16]

2. *Invites* Governments to provide additional inputs, in particular proposals concerning possible further initiatives, to the Preparatory Committee for the Special Session of the General Assembly on the Implementation of the Outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and Further Initiatives to facilitate the work of the Preparatory Committee at its first substantive session;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to update the above-mentioned reports before their presentation to the Preparatory Committee at its first substantive session in May 1999 so that they reflect the proposals and suggestions made during the discussions in the Commission, as well as any additional inputs submitted by Governments.

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* For the discussion, see chap. II, paras. 49–52.

[13] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[14] Ibid., annex II.

[15] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-third Session, Supplement No. 45* (A/53/45), chap. VI, sect. B, decision 3.

[16] E/CN.5/1999/4 and E/CN.5/1999/3.

Decision 37/102

Chairman's summary of the expert panel discussion on social services for all

The Commission for Social Development decides to include in the report on its thirty-seventh session the Chairman's summary of the expert panel discussion on social services for all.

Decision 37/103

Moderator's summary of the panel on youth

The Commission for Social Development decides to include in the report on its thirty-seventh session the Moderator's summary of the panel on youth.

Decision 37/104

Documents considered in connection with the follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development

The Commission for Social Development takes note of the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the status and role of cooperatives in the light of new economic and social trends (A/54/57);

(b) Interim report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons (E/CN.5/1999/5).

Decision 37/105

Documents considered in connection with programme questions and other matters

The Commission for Social Development takes note of the following documents:

(a) Report of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (E/CN.5/1999/9);

(b) Note by the Secretary-General on the nomination of members of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (E/CN.5/1999/10);

(c) Note by the Secretariat on the proposed programme of work of the Division for Social Policy and Development for the biennium 2000–2001 (E/CN.5/1999/L.2).

Chapter II

Follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development

1. The Commission for Social Development considered item 3 of its agenda (Follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development: (a) priority themes: (i) Social services for all; (ii) Initiation of the overall review of the implementation of the outcome of the Summit; (b) Review of relevant United Nations plans and programmes of action pertaining to the situation of social groups) at its 1st to 13th meetings, on 9 to 12 and 16 to 19 February 1999. The Commission had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the status and role of cooperatives in the light of new economic and social trends (A/54/57);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond (A/54/59);

(c) Note by the Secretary-General on the World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth (A/54/62);

(d) Letter dated 11 February 1999 from the Permanent Representative of Senegal to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/54/66–E/1999/6);

(e) Report of the Secretary-General on social services for all (E/CN.5/1999/2);

(f) Report of the Secretary-General on further initiatives for the implementation of the outcome for the World Summit for Social Development (E/CN.5/1999/3);

(g) Report of the Secretary-General on a preliminary assessment of the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development (E/CN.5/1999/4);

(h) Interim report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons (E/CN.5/1999/5);

(i) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the expert workshop on ensuring access to social services of under-served populations (E/CN.5/1999/6);

(j) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the final report of the expert workshop on innovations in the delivery and financing of social services (E/CN.5/1999/7);

(k) Note by the Secretary-General on the International Year of Older Persons and follow-up arrangements (E/CN.5/1999/8);

(l) Letter dated 21 December 1998 from the Permanent Representative of Germany to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the report of the international expert meeting on social services for all (E/CN.5/1999/11);

(m) Letter dated 25 January 1999 from the Permanent Representative of Portugal to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the Braga Youth Action Plan and working group reports (E/CN.5/1999/12);

(n) Letter dated 29 January 1999 from the Permanent Representative of Viet Nam to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (E/CN.5/1999/13);

(o) Letter dated 5 February 1999 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (E/CN.5/1999/14);

(p) Report of the World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth (WCMRY/1998/28).

2. At the 1st meeting, on 9 February, the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs opened the session and addressed the Commission.

3. At the same meeting, an introductory statement was made by the Director of the Division for Social Policy and Development of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs.

4. Also at the 1st meeting, special presentations were made by the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund on the theme "Education for all".

5. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Germany (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union), Jamaica, the United States of America, India, Cuba, the Sudan and Japan, as well as the observers for Costa Rica, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Côte d'Ivoire.

Address by the Chairman of the Preparatory Committee for the Special Session of the General Assembly on the Implementation of the Outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and Further Initiatives

6. At the 13th meeting, on 19 February, Mr. Cristian Maquieira, Chairman of the Preparatory Committee for the Special Session of the General Assembly on the Implementation of the Outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and Further Initiatives, addressed the Commission.

Action taken by the Commission

7. At the 13th meeting, on 19 February, on the proposal of the Chairman, the Commission decided to take note of documents submitted under the agenda item (see chap. I, sect. D, decision 37/104).

Priority theme: Social services for all

8. The Commission considered item 3 (a) (i) of its agenda at its 3rd to 5th, 7th and 13th meetings, on 10 to 12 and 19 February.

9. At the 3rd meeting, on 10 February, statements were made by the representatives of Germany (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia and Cyprus, as well as Iceland, a country member of the European Free Trade Association that is also a member of the European Economic Area), Canada, Jamaica, the Republic of Korea, China, Poland, Japan, Sweden and Finland.

10. At the same meeting, the observer for Guyana (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China) made a statement.

11. Also at the 3rd meeting, the representatives of the World Health Organization, the World Bank and the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) made statements.

12. At the 4th meeting, on 10 February, statements were made by the representatives of Turkey, Cuba, Algeria, Nepal and Romania.

13. At the same meeting, the observer for Iraq made a statement.

14. Also at the 4th meeting, the representative of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific made a statement. The observers for the Foundation for the Rights of the Family (PRODEFA) and Mani Tese '76, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, made statements.

15. At the 5th meeting, on 11 February, statements were made by the representatives of the Philippines, the Russian Federation, Belarus, the United States of America, India, Ecuador, Uganda, Cameroon and the Islamic Republic of Iran, as well as the observers for Indonesia, Bangladesh, Benin and the Czech Republic.

16. At the 7th meeting, on 12 February, statements were made by the representatives of Haiti and Argentina, as well as the observers for Turkmenistan, Kenya and Guatemala.

Action taken by the Commission

17. At the 13th meeting, on 19 February, on the proposal of the Chairman, the Commission adopted a resolution whereby it decided to transmit agreed conclusions on social services for all to the Preparatory Committee for the special session of the General Assembly at its first session and to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1999 (see chap. I, sect. D, resolution 37/1).

18. At the same meeting, the Commission had before it a draft text entitled "Elements for the agreed conclusions of the Commission (E/CN.5/1999/L.4), submitted by the Vice-Chairperson of the Commission, Ms. Faith Innerarity (Jamaica), on the basis of informal consultations. The Commission was informed of the amendments that had been agreed to during the informal consultations held on the agreed conclusions.

19. Also at the 13th meeting, the Commission adopted the agreed conclusions, as orally amended (see chap. I, sect. D, resolution 37/1, annex).

Review of relevant United Nations plans and programmes of action pertaining to the situation of social groups

20. The Commission considered item 3 (b) of its agenda at its 6th, 7th and 11th to 13th meetings, on 11, 12, 18 and 19 February.

International Year of Older Persons, 1999: towards a society for all ages

21. At the 6th meeting, on 11 February, the Coordinator for the activities of the Consultative Group on Ageing, Mrs. Julia Tavares de Álvarez (Dominican Republic), made an oral report to the Commission.

22. At the same meeting, the Coordinator for the International Year of Older Persons, Division for Social Policy and Development, made an introductory statement.

23. Also at the 6th meeting, a Social Affairs Officer of the Division for Social Policy and Development made a presentation.

24. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Germany (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia and Cyprus, as well as Iceland, a country member of the European Free Trade Association that is also a member of the European Economic Area), the Dominican Republic, the Republic of Korea, Croatia, Spain, the United States of America and Jamaica,

as well as the observer for Guyana (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China).

25. At the 7th meeting, on 12 February, statements were made by the representatives of Poland, the Philippines, China, Nepal and Cameroon.

26. At the same meeting, statements were made by the observers for Mexico and Indonesia.

27. Also at the 7th meeting, the representatives of the United Nations Development Programme and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific made statements.

Action taken by the Commission

28. At the 11th meeting, on 18 February, the representative of the Dominican Republic, on behalf of Croatia, introduced a draft resolution (E/CN.5/1999/L.5) entitled "International Year of Older Persons, 1999: towards a society for all ages", which read as follows:

"*The Commission for Social Development*,

"*Recalling* the Proclamation on Ageing, adopted on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of the World Assembly on Ageing, in which the General Assembly, *inter alia*, decided to observe the year 1999 as the International Year of Older Persons,

"*Recalling also* General Assembly resolution 52/80 of 12 December 1997, in which the Assembly decided to devote four plenary meetings at its fifty-fourth session to the follow-up to the Year, which should take place at an appropriate global policy-making level,

"*Welcoming* recent contributions by Governments, non-governmental organizations and the private sector to the Trust Fund for Ageing which continues to play a small but catalytic role in enabling developing countries to respond to the ageing of their populations,

"*Welcoming also* the support provided by States to the United Nations Secretariat in developing an Internet-accessible database on policies and programmes on ageing, intended to facilitate the review and appraisal of the implementation of major international instruments on ageing,

"*Noting with satisfaction* the efforts of the United Nations Secretariat to elaborate a framework for a long-term perspective strategy on ageing, including a research agenda for the twenty-first century, and policy approaches for a society for all ages,

"1. *Acknowledges with appreciation* the note of the Secretary-General entitled 'International Year of Older Persons and follow-up arrangements';

"2. *Acknowledges also with appreciation* the pioneering role of the non-governmental community in worldwide observances of the International Year of Older Persons and the International Day of Older Persons;

"3. *Urges* States to present to the General Assembly at the four plenary sessions of its fifty-fourth session that are being devoted to follow-up to the Year, their national reports on observances of the Year, policy approaches to ageing, and best practices for a society for all ages;

"4. *Requests* the United Nations Secretariat to incorporate, as feasible, the experiences, policies and best practices reported by States into a long-term strategy on ageing, encompassing periodic reviews, for the consideration of the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session in the year 2001;

"5. *Invites* the regional commissions, within their respective mandates, to participate in monitoring and reviewing the implementation of the International Plan of Action on Ageing in their respective regions as well as to contribute to the development of a future long-term strategy on ageing;

"6. *Urges* interested States, United Nations agencies and bodies, non-governmental organizations, research centres and the private sector to continue to support the United Nations programme on ageing in developing a long-term policy-oriented research agenda and in facilitating promotional and coordination activities for 1999 and beyond;

"7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to solicit the views of States, non-governmental organizations and the private sector on updating the International Plan of Action on Ageing and on the desirability and feasibility of convening in the year 2002 a review of the outcome of the World Assembly on Ageing including the interrelationship of ageing and development;

"8. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Commission for Social Development at its thirty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution."

29. At the 13th meeting, on 19 February, the representative of the Dominican Republic informed the Commission on the outcome of informal consultations held on the draft resolution and also informed the Commission that, in addition to the original sponsors, Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Chile, Denmark, Ecuador, Finland, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Morocco, the Netherlands, Norway, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Sweden, Thailand, Turkey, Uganda, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Venezuela had subsequently joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

30. At the same meeting, the representative of the Dominican Republic proposed an oral revision to the draft resolution, whereby the words "major international instruments on ageing" at the end of the fourth preambular paragraph were replaced by the words "major international documents on ageing, such as the International Plan of Action on Ageing and the United Nations Principles for Older Persons".

31. Also at the 13th meeting, the representative of the Republic of Korea proposed oral revisions to the draft resolution as follows:

(a) A new preambular paragraph was inserted after the second preambular paragraph, which read:

"*Recalling further* Commission for Social Development decision 36/101, adopted by the Commission at its thirty-sixth session, on the options for the future review and appraisal of the implementation of the International Plan of Action on Ageing";

(b) A new operative paragraph was inserted after paragraph 4, which read:

"5. *Suggests* that the United Nations Secretariat further explore the feasibility of an ageing-related development index to be included in the *Human Development Report*;"

and the subsequent paragraphs were renumbered accordingly.

32. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted the draft resolution, as orally revised (see chap. I, sect. D, resolution 37/2).

Policies and programmes involving youth

33. At the 11th meeting, on 18 February, the observer for Portugal, on behalf of Andorra, Croatia, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Senegal, South Africa, Swaziland, Turkey and Uganda, introduced a draft resolution (E/CN.5/1999/L.6) entitled "Policies and programmes involving youth", which read as follows:

"*The Economic and Social Council*

"*Recommends* to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

'*The General Assembly*,

'*Recalling* its resolution 50/81 of 14 December 1995, by which it adopted the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond, annexed thereto, as an integral part of that resolution,

'*Noting especially* that, in paragraph 123 of the Programme of Action, current regional and interregional conferences of ministers responsible for youth affairs in Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean and Western Asia were invited to intensify cooperation among each other and to consider meeting regularly at the international level under the aegis of the United Nations to provide an effective forum for a focused global dialogue on youth-related issues,

'*Noting* that, in paragraph 124 of the Programme of Action, youth-related bodies and organizations of the United Nations system were invited to cooperate with the above-mentioned conferences,

'*Recalling* that, in paragraph 125 of the Programme of Action, the World Youth Forum of the United Nations System was invited to contribute to the implementation of the Programme of Action through the identification and promotion of joint initiatives to further its objectives so that they better reflected the interests of youth,

'*Recalling also* Economic and Social Council resolution 1997/55 of 23 July 1997 and General Assembly resolution 52/83 of 12 December 1997, in which the Council and the Assembly welcomed the invitation of the Government of Portugal to host the World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth, held at Lisbon from 8 to 12 August 1998,

'*Welcoming* the World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth, hosted by the Government of Portugal in cooperation with the United Nations, as well as the support of the Government of Portugal for the holding of the third session of the World Youth Forum of the United Nations System, convened at Braga, Portugal, from 2 to 7 August 1998,

'1. *Takes notes with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond, the Lisbon Declaration on Youth Policies and Programmes, adopted by the World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth, and the Braga Youth Action Plan, adopted by the third session of the World Youth Forum of the United Nations System;

'2. *Calls upon* all States, all United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies, the regional commissions and the intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned, in particular youth organizations, to make all possible efforts towards the implementation of the Programme of Action and to consider, within its framework, the appropriate ways and means to follow up the Lisbon Declaration, also taking into account the reports of the second and third sessions of the World Youth Forum of the United Nations System held, respectively, in Vienna in 1996 and in Braga in 1998, in accordance with their experience, situation and priorities;

'3. *Invites* all relevant United Nations programmes, funds, specialized agencies and other bodies within the United Nations system, as well as other intergovernmental organizations and regional financial institutions, to give greater support to national youth policies and programmes within their country programmes as a way to follow up the World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth and the World Youth Forum of the United Nations System;

'4. *Welcomes* the proposals made by the Secretary-General to strengthen the Youth Unit of the Secretariat and requests that similar action be undertaken to strengthen the corresponding youth policy units and focal points throughout the United Nations system and to involve young people directly in the planning, implementation and evaluation of such activities;

'5. *Encourages* the regional commissions to follow up the World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth and the third session of the World Youth Forum of the United Nations System in their respective regions, in coordination with regional meetings of ministers responsible for youth and regional youth non-governmental organizations, and to provide advisory services to support national youth policies and programmes in each region;

'6. *Endorses* the recommendation made by the World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth that 12 August be declared International Youth Day and recommends that public information activities be organized at all levels to support the Day as a way to promote better awareness, especially among youth, of the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond;

'7. *Invites* the Secretary-General to participate actively in the effective follow-up to the World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth, bearing in mind General Assembly resolution 52/83 and Economic and Social Council resolution 1997/55 and within the framework of the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond;

'8. *Invites* States to consider hosting the second World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth and therefore to take action within the responsible bodies of the United Nations system in order to do so;

'9. *Calls upon* all States, all United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies, the regional commissions and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to exchange knowledge and expertise on youth-related issues, upon setting up the ways and means to do so.'"

34. At the 13th meeting, on 19 February, the observer for Portugal informed the Commission on the outcome of informal consultations held on the draft resolution and of the amendments to the draft resolution that had been agreed to during those informal consultations; and also informed the Commission that Argentina, Austria, Chile, Ecuador, France, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Philippines, Romania, Spain, Thailand, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Venezuela had subsequently joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

35. At the same meeting, the representative of the United States of America made a statement.

36. Also at its 13th meeting, the Commission adopted the draft resolution, as orally amended (see chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution).

Priority theme: Initiation of the overall review of the implementation of the outcome of the Summit

37. The Commission considered item 3 (a) (ii) of its agenda at its 8th to 11th and 13th meetings, on 16 to 19 February.

38. At the 8th meeting, on 16 February, statements were made by the representatives of Germany (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia and Cyprus), Poland, Pakistan, Belarus, Japan and Swaziland, as well as the observers for Norway and Bangladesh.

39. At the same meeting, the representative of the World Bank, the Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund and the representative of the Joint and Co-Sponsored United Nations Programme on Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (HIV/AIDS) also made statements.

40. Also at the 8th meeting, statements were also made by the observers for Pax Romana, the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU) and Centro di Ricerca e Documentazione Febbraio 74 (CERFE), non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council.

41. At the 9th meeting, on 16 February, statements were made by the representatives of China, Croatia, Brazil, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, France and Cuba.

42. At the same meeting, a statement was made by the representatives of the International Labour Organization and the Inter-Parliamentary Union, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status with the Economic and Social Council.

43. Also, at the 9th meeting, statements were made by the observers for the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council.

44. At the 10th meeting, on 17 February, statements were made by the representatives of the United States of America, Turkey, the Philippines, Nepal, Venezuela, the Republic of Korea and India as well as the observers for Colombia, Guyana (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China) and Switzerland.

45. At the same meeting, statements were made by the observers for the International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies, Real Women of Canada, and the Commission of the Churches on International Affairs of the World Council of Churches, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council.

46. At the 11th meeting, on 18 February, a statement was made by the representative of Peru.

47. At the same meeting, the representative of the United Nations Development Programme made a statement.

48. Also at the 11th meeting, a statement was made by the observer for the International Federation of Settlements and Neighborhood Centres, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status with the Economic and Social Council.

Action taken by the Commission

49. At the 13th meeting, on 19 February, the Commission had before it a draft text (E/CN.5/1999/L.8) entitled "Initiation of the overall review of the implementation of the outcome of the Summit", submitted by the Bureau of the Commission, which read as follows:

"*The Commission for Social Development*,

"*Recalling* General Assembly resolution 51/202 of 17 December 1996, in which the Assembly decided that the Commission for Social Development, as the functional commission of the Economic and Social Council with the primary responsibility for follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development, and for review of the implementation of the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development, would undertake work in 1999–2000 for the preparation of the special session of the Assembly in the year 2000 for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcome of the Summit, in accordance with its programme of work as set out in Council resolution 1996/7,

"*Recalling also* General Assembly resolution 52/25 of 26 November 1997, in which the Assembly reaffirmed that the Preparatory Committee for the Special Session of the General Assembly on the Implementation of the Outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and Further Initiatives would initiate its substantive activities in 1999 on the basis of input by the Commission for Social Development,

"*Mindful* that, at its organizational session in May 1998, the Preparatory Committee adopted decision 2, in which the Committee underlined that its task, in accordance with relevant General Assembly decisions, was to review and appraise the implementation of the outcome of the Summit, on the basis of input provided by the Commission, and to propose concrete actions and initiatives for further implementation of the Copenhagen commitments,

"*Recalling in particular* decision 3, adopted by the Preparatory Committee at its organizational session in May 1998, in which the Committee recommended that the Commission be entrusted with the responsibility of acting as the forum for national reporting, benefiting from a sharing of experiences gained and thus in 1999 and 2000 identifying areas where further initiatives were needed for consideration by the Preparatory Committee to discuss how those initiatives would further assist implementation,

"*Having considered* the issue of initiation of the overall review of the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development,

"1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on the preliminary assessment of the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and the report of the Secretary-General on further initiatives for the implementation of the outcome of the Summit;

"2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to update, as appropriate, these reports before their presentation to the Preparatory Committee for the Special Session of the General Assembly on the Implementation of the Outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and Further Initiatives, at its first substantive session in May 1999, taking into account the proposals and suggestions made during the discussions in the Commission, as reflected in the annex to the present resolution;

"3. *Decides* to transmit the annex to the present resolution to the Preparatory Committee at its first substantive session.

"Annex

"Summary of views and proposals expressed on the initiation of the overall review of the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development

"The following issues were mentioned during the discussion of the Commission for Social Development for possible consideration, as appropriate, by the Preparatory Committee at its first session in May 1999. These issues have not been the subject of negotiation among delegations during the session of the Commission, and listing does not imply any indication of priority among the issues raised.

"General comments

"1. The special session should aim for concrete, action-oriented and focused outcomes.

"2. The special session should promote a rethinking of the social dimensions of economic development.

"3. There should be coordination between the special session and the reviews of other United Nations conferences, in particular those of the International Conference on Population and Development, and the Fourth World Conference on Women.

"4. The importance of open and continued dialogue among stakeholders was stressed. An international dialogue on issues such as globalization, international financial market volatility and development financing and their impact on social development would be necessary.

"5. Partnership and solidarity at all levels and among States is essential to fulfil the goals set by the Summit.

"6. The importance of people-centred development was reaffirmed; the basis of social development lies in the empowerment of the individual and communities.

"7. Governments and international institutions are becoming increasingly aware of the need for a comprehensive approach to development, the growing

interdependence between the economic and social spheres, and the need to integrate social and economic policies and objectives.

"8. Political will and commitment are prerequisites of effective implementation of the goals agreed at Copenhagen.

"9. Review of the implementation of Summit commitments should be holistic and carried out at all levels — subnational, national, regional, interregional and international.

"10. The interrelatedness of all commitments and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development, was recognized.

"11. The need to assist countries with economies in transition was identified.

"I. Preliminary assessment of the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development

"12. Global awareness of social issues has increased, and social issues have become an important part of the national, regional and international political agenda. Since the Summit, a number of countries have reassessed their priorities, taking into account social concerns as an integral part of socio-economic development. Human and people-centred development has become a recognized goal of the international community.

"13. However, progress towards achieving the goals set by Copenhagen has been very uneven. Advances in some areas of social concern coexist with setbacks and deterioration in other areas. At the national level, an improvement of social conditions has been slowed down owing to resource constraints or lack of capacity to implement positive change. Several countries have been negatively affected by natural disasters and other unforeseen calamities.

"14. The growing economic difficulties in many parts of the world precluded the fulfilment of the commitments of Copenhagen in their entirety. The unfortunate consequences of deterioration in the economic environment, particularly in connection with the global financial crisis, brought, in some cases, a reversal of social gains, while there was an increase in human suffering and deprivation. In the affected countries, the impact of economic adversity was felt at all levels of society, but the poorest segments carry a disproportionate burden.

"15. The ongoing globalization and integration of the world economy clearly affect social development. There is a concern that some countries may remain marginalized by the global market place and their progress towards fulfilling social aspirations may be hampered.

"16. In monitoring the implementation of goals and targets set by the Summit, the development of a common set of social indicators should be considered.

"17. In responding to the guidelines for national reporting, Governments are urged to identify progress made, obstacles encountered and practical measures undertaken.

"II. **Further initiatives for the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development**

"Commitment 1: An enabling environment for social development

"• The centrality of effective, participatory governance including through free and regular elections and democratic national and international economic and social institutions. The role of decentralization;

"• The social impact of globalization, its constructive and destructive consequences and means of enhancing the former and reducing the latter;

"• The socio-economic consequences of international financial market instability. Consideration of objectives, principles and possible policies that could be of fundamental importance as inputs into the General Assembly processes on finance for development. Means for building national and international capacity to withstand financial shocks;

"• The market, society and government: the complementarities and conflicts, interrelationships and interdependencies;

"• The social responsibilities of business in a world where the private sector is increasingly powerful are a critical factor in social development. Preparation of a code of conduct could be one approach to clarifying these;

"• The importance of reducing corruption so as to increase the efficiency, equity and impartiality with which policies are administered was emphasized;

"• One of the earliest subjects suggested for inclusion in the agenda of the special session was standardization of social development indicators;

"• The issue of minimum standards for social policy could well be considered;

"• International commitment to poverty eradication is expressed not only in the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development but also in the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the Declaration on the Right to Development. The Covenant has still not been universally ratified, and that is an important goal, and means for strengthening implementation could be considered;

"• The importance of fair trade and investment and means of encouraging these.

"Commitment 2: Poverty eradication

"• Strengthening commitment to and use of poverty reduction targets as the foundation for encouraging the adoption or review of national poverty reduction strategies;

"• The possibility of setting a global time-bound goal for reduction of poverty such as halving poverty by 2015;

"• The possibility of a global poverty eradication strategy that is broad-based and multi-pronged;

"• The need for attention to severe malnutrition, unsafe drinking water and other sanitation policies;

"• Increasing support for microcredit schemes which is important in both rural and urban areas;

"• Establishing, strengthening or improving social protection systems is integral to social cohesion. Such social safety nets include income maintenance programmes for disadvantaged groups such as the unemployed;

"• Improving the quality of management of national social protection systems;

"• Strengthening population policies.

"Commitment 3: Employment

"• Strengthening commitment to the universal goal of full, productive and appropriately and adequately remunerated and freely chosen employment as an essential underpinning for social development and the achievement of social justice;

"• Refocusing macroeconomic policies so that social goals and priorities become central and are in a sophisticated balance with economic priorities;

"• Adoption of national employment growth strategies including:

  "• Improving the access to credit for small and medium-sized businesses at manageable interest rates;

  "• Improving infrastructure — and the value of local public works in employment creation;

  "• The equity of access to productive inputs such as land and sites for enterprise;

  "• Increasing the accessibility of information and advisory services;

"• The impact of new technologies on social dynamics to improve productivity, increase competitiveness, and the importance of lifelong education and continuous education and training are crucial subjects for discussion. The economic and social consequences and potential of rapid technological development should be studied and discussed;

"• The importance of universal adoption of the core labour standards agreed by the Social Summit and reaffirmed by the International Labour Conference;

"• Rural development as the most important strategic requirement for growth of income-earning work in many developing countries;

"• The informal sector as a major area of low-productivity income-earning opportunity;

"• Improvements in human services such as education, health, welfare and information services, for these not only are essential for human well-being and for development but also have the great secondary benefit of being a major source of employment growth;

"• Part-time and voluntary work can be particularly important in the provision of services to groups with special needs;

"• Active labour-market policies such as direct employment creation, retraining and redeployment assistance, including through strengthening employment services;

"• The right to employment of the disabled and other disadvantaged groups such as indigenous, migrant and ethnic minority people, and of programmes for encouraging their inclusion in the workforce;

"• Youth unemployment does such lifelong damage that it deserves special attention;

"• Employment issues are also important for older persons. Such issues as retirement ages, part-time work for older people, entrepreneurship among older persons, and social security and pension arrangements are all relevant.

"Commitment 4: Social integration

"• The rule of law is a basic requirement for secure societies;

"• Families are the basic unit of society, and play a critical role in socializing our children and building societies. Means of supporting and strengthening families in these vital roles should be discussed. A proposal was made to establish an international legal instrument on the rights of the family;

"• A programme of action against marginalization of all types can be important in strengthening social integration. Support for minority groups is a necessary part of building integrated multicultural societies. The social conditions and needs of migrant groups are an important example;

"• An important issue is finding effective ways of dealing with national conflict and strengthening policies for post-conflict recovery, not least through reconciliation and social reintegration;

"• Civil society has a crucial role in participatory societies;

"• Access to information is a basic right and opportunities must be enhanced wherever there are difficulties;

"• A free, open and professional media based on diversity of ownership and control is a necessary condition for effective democracies;

"• The social costs of global crime could well be addressed by the special session.

"Commitment 5: Equality and equity between women and men

"• The gender perspective should be mainstreamed in all aspects of the special session;

"• The particular issues of poverty among women;

"• The importance of sharing of responsibilities between women and men in both family life and public affairs;

"• Universal access to education for girls is an intrinsic part of the implementation of commitment 6 but has such extensive benefits that its emphasis is appropriate here too;

"• Strengthened commitment to the advancement of women;

"• Tackling gender-based violence.

"Commitment 6: Universal and equitable access to quality education and health services

"• The target of achieving education for all through universal primary education in all countries before the year 2015 should be further accelerated. This could be undertaken through preparation of and agreement on a strategy for the provision of the required delivery of services of improving quality with the allocation of the required financial and human resources;

"• The inadequacy of health care in many countries is clear, as is the fact that there has been deterioration in the provision of health care in many countries during the last couple of decades. The special session could give consideration to a new strategy for achieving the goal of access to basic health care for all;

"• The 20/20 initiative offers a potentially politically effective way of motivation and targeting improvements in allocations and funding for social services. Clarification

of the measures and impact and effectiveness could be addressed by the special session;

"• Improving the efficiency, effectiveness and innovativeness of social services is vital for ensuring that scarce funds are used well.

"Commitment 7: Accelerate the development of Africa and the least developed countries

"• One of the further initiatives suggested would be a specific one on Africa and the least developed countries;

"• Diversification of commodity production and exports through the establishment of a diversification facility to finance diversification projects and programmes;

"• Improving institutional arrangements to increase access to credit and provide a basis for lowering high regional interest rates;

"• A high priority not only for Africa but for the world is agreement on an international strategy for minimizing the spread of human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS), including benchmarks for measuring stages of progress.

"Commitment 8: Ensure that structural adjustment programmes include social development goals

"• Structural adjustment programmes must be reviewed to ensure that social development goals and policies are included in all phases of macroeconomic strategy, including the initial response to financial crises. Structural adjustment must be an aspect of people-centred development;

"• Means of increasing the transparency and accountability of the Bretton Woods institutions and of the World Trade Organization could be studied.

"Commitment 9: Increase resources allocated to social development

"• Adequate, effective social policies require the availability of sufficient revenue to pay for services that are provided through the public sector;

"• In a globalizing world, tax interactions between countries must be reviewed to minimize tax competition between countries;

"• Increasing economic integration increases possibilities for innovation in national revenue collection;

"• One means of increasing resources available for social policies is through reordering of budget priorities by, for example, reducing military outlays in order to release funds for higher-priority human services. Reduction of trade in weapons would be a useful component;

"• Many countries need increased external resources in order to act more effectively to reduce poverty, hence reversing the current decline in official development assistance (ODA) is vital;

"• New initiatives are essential to end the paralysing constraint of the international debts of severely indebted countries.

"Commitment 10: Implementation and institutional reform

"• Social impact assessments are a useful technique for evaluating national policy and programme initiatives and major projects. This could be extended to the introduction of international social auditing;

"• With increasing international integration, strengthening international institutional arrangements for social and economic strategy-making and policy development is important. Strengthening the Economic and Social Council system was proposed as part of this. Channels of dialogue with the financial and industrialized sectors as well as with trade unions, consumer organizations and other civil organizations could be addressed;

"• Measures should be prepared to ensure that the objectives and policy approaches of the Social Summit are reflected effectively in the mandates, programmes and coordination arrangements of the United Nations, its funds and programmes, the specialized agencies and the Bretton Woods institutions;

"• Reform of the international financial system should be considered, including of the policies of the International Monetary Fund (IMF);

"• Means of improving cooperation and collaboration among international organizations should be considered."

50. At the same meeting, the Commission also had before it a corrigendum to the draft text (E/CN.5/1999/L.8/Corr.1), which read as follows:

"1. The preambular section should be replaced by:

"*Recalling* General Assembly resolution 51/202 of 17 December 1996, in which the Assembly decided that the Commission for Social Development, as the functional commission of the Economic and Social Council with the primary responsibility for follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development, and for review of the implementation of the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development, would undertake work in 1999–2000 for the preparation of the special session of the Assembly in the year 2000 for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcome of the Summit, in accordance with its programme of work as set out in Council resolution 1996/7,

"*Recalling also* decision 3, adopted by the Preparatory Committee for the Special Session of the General Assembly on the Implementation of the Outcome of the World Summit for Social Development at its organizational session in May 1998, in which the Committee recommended that the Commission be entrusted with the responsibility of acting as the forum for national reporting, benefiting from a sharing of experiences gained and thus in 1999 and 2000 identifying areas where further initiatives were needed for consideration by the Preparatory Committee to discuss how those initiatives would further assist implementation,

"*Having considered* the issue of initiation of the overall review of the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development,

"2. Operative paragraph 3 should be replaced by:

"3. *Encourages* Governments to provide additional input to the Preparatory Committee to facilitate its work at its first session."

51. Also at the 13th meeting, the Vice-Chairperson of the Commission, Mrs. Maria Lourdes V. Ramiro-Lopez (Philippines), informed the Commission of the outcome of the

informal consultations held on the draft resolution. The Commission was informed of the amendments agreed to during the informal consultations held on the draft resolution.

52. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted the draft resolution, as orally amended (see chap. I, sect. D, resolution 37/3).

Panel discussions

Expert panel on social services for all

53 At its 2nd meeting, on 9 February, the Commission held an expert panel discussion on the priority theme "Social services for all".

54. The Chairman of the Commission, Mr. Aurelio Fernández (Spain) acted as moderator. Dr. Funmi Togonu-Bickersteth (Nigeria), Dr. Nawal Ammar (Egypt), Dr. Siddiqur Rahman Osmani (Bangladesh) and Ms. Sylvia Saborio (Costa Rica) made presentations.

55. Following their presentations, the panellists participated in an exchange of views with the Commission.

Panel on youth

56. At its 12th meeting, on 19 February, the Commission held a panel discussion on youth. The Vice-Chairperson of the Commission, Ms. Joanna Wronecka (Poland), acted as moderator. Ms. Filomena Martins (Portugal), Mr. Percival M. Mofokeng (South Africa), Mr. William Angel (Department of Economic and Social Affairs/New York), Ms. Anita Amorim (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization/New York) and Mr. Daraka Larimore-Fall (International Union of Socialist Youth) made presentations.

57. Following their presentations, the panellists participated in an exchange of views with the Commission.

Action taken by the Commission

Chairman's summary of the expert panel discussion on social services for all

58. At its 13th meeting, on 19 February, on the proposal of the Chairman, the Commission decided to include in its report the Chairman's summary of the expert panel discussion on social services for all (see chap. I, sect. D, decision 37/102).

Moderator's summary of the panel discussion on youth

59. At its 13th meeting, on 19 February, on the proposal of the Chairman, the Commission decided to include in its report the Moderator's summary of the panel discussion on youth (see chap. I, sect. D, decision 37/103).

60. The Chairman's summary of the expert panel discussion on social services for all and the Moderator's summary of the panel discussion on youth, are set out below:

Chairman's summary of the expert panel discussion on social services for all

I. Definitions of "social services"

1. The Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development enumerates many different forms of social services. It is important to recognize that all people in society may have recourse at some point in their lives to using social services. Social services may be grouped under three broad headings:

(a) Services to meet the essential needs of the entire population, comprising health care, nutrition and food security, shelter, clean water and safe sanitation, personal safety, information, protection and redress under the law;

(b) Services that respond to needs that exist at different stages in an individual's lifespan, for example, the needs of infants and children (including basic education), of adolescents and youth (including services relating to reproductive health, maternity, parenting and job-related training), of those in the economically most active years (including services to provide training and retraining, and support during periods of job-seeking and unemployment) and of those in old age, including in retirement and in the final stages of life (in particular care in frail old age);

(c) Services tailored to the requirements of population groups with specific needs, including persons with disabilities, migrants and refugees, indigenous people and groups experiencing discrimination, victims of crime or violence, addicts and former addicts, former prisoners, the destitute and others.

2. The goal of social services for all is to ensure higher standards and promote a higher quality of life for all people. In addition to improvements in physical conditions, such as better health care, cleaner water and safer transport, a higher quality of life also entails intangible aspects such as ensuring people's sense of belonging and integration in their communities, and meeting their psychological and security needs in ways that do not threaten their dignity and self-esteem. Social services help to create an enabling environment which attempts to bring out the best in all people and enables their full participation in all aspects of the life around them. A higher quality of life thus means that people will be able to attain increased power and control over their own futures.

II. Context

3. It is important, while recognizing general aspects, to note that the provision of social services for all must take place within specific contexts. There are different national situations reflecting different cultures, histories and traditions. There is the question of how services should be provided, for example, that of universalism versus particularism in provision of services, and the need for an integrated approach to service delivery. There is also the question of who should provide services, and how service provision may be enhanced through increased partnership among all the social actors.

A. Different national situations

4. Mindful of the diversity among different countries of the world, the Copenhagen Summit recommended that the implementation of the Programme of Action be in consonance "with national laws and development priorities", with full respect for the diversities that exist in a country and "in conformity with all human rights and fundamental freedoms". More importantly, the Programme of Action further recommended that each country "also take action in accordance with its evolving capacities". Thus, a challenge facing policy makers is to balance the many competing and compelling social needs and to ascertain priorities in the planning and development of services. In determining priorities, it is important to recognize all the options and consider as well the costs of *not* providing services. The problem becomes increasingly acute when unmet needs compete with new needs, and at a period when resources appear to be diminishing.

B. Universalism as a goal and as a means

5. When considering how best to provide social services to all, it is necessary to distinguish between universalism as a goal and universalism as a means. Universalism as a goal does not necessarily entail universalism as a means. Governments may set the goal that every citizen should have access to a basic level of social services, but this does not necessarily mean that the State should provide services to everyone. In fact, it may sometimes be necessary to target public services to specific groups in order to ensure universal access for all. Universal access may be encouraged by targeting subsidies to people living in poverty.

6. In seeking to provide universal access to social services, Governments also attempt to ensure social equity and equality of opportunity for all people, while avoiding social exclusion. Through services that meet the basic social needs of all people, Governments can, in a very practical way, promote a minimum level of social equality. In this connection, the question of stratification of service provision needs to be considered. There arises a concern that if public services are available only for people living in poverty and the disadvantaged or vulnerable, then those services are likely to be of poor quality. Recourse to public services may also carry with it a stigma which discourages people who need those services from actually using them. Social stratification may result — or increase — if the services intended to overcome disadvantage in fact reinforce that disadvantage because they are of poor quality or underused.

C. An integrated approach to defining needs and providing services

7. Many times, service delivery operates on the basis of a "medical model". A need or problem is identified, but the process of identification is often isolated or based on a segmented perspective. For example, the need for primary education may be identified, and as a result schools are built, teachers are hired, curricula are planned. Only when students do not attend class does anyone realize that other issues which may be "non-educational" in nature, such as the need to pay school fees, the fear of parents of girls to send their daughters long distances to go to class, or the competing need for children to earn money to support their families, also affect people's ability to take advantage of services.

8. How needs are defined and services are provided will vary depending on circumstances. It is important to adopt an integrated approach in recognition of the

fact that most needs are complex and have a multitude of causal factors. Simple solutions rarely respond appropriately to complex situations.

D. The need for partnerships

9. Many services are not provided exclusively by Governments but by a combination of different providers. Often, the role of government has evolved from that of service provider to one involving regulation and oversight of services provided by others. While this trend has been generally recognized and the need to strengthen partnership among Governments, the private sector and organizations of civil society has been repeatedly voiced, the institution of those partnerships has not always proceeded.

III. Challenges

10. In trying to provide social services for all, Governments and their partners confront a number of challenges stemming in part from the overwhelming need for services in many countries and in part from changing conditions in the national and international enabling environment. Policy makers and service providers are thus faced with a situation of having to meet current needs while having also to anticipate future needs.

11. The task of determining what need to focus on in any society is complicated by the dynamic nature of needs. Without enumerating specific needs to be addressed it is nevertheless possible to distinguish issues relevant to all countries as they strive to provide social services for all. The Copenhagen Programme of Action calls for the provision of services that are of good quality, client-friendly, and efficient and cost-effective. To achieve these goals, organizational and administrative strategies for service delivery should be established. Often, it is these strategies that will determine how services are provided and whether they respond to people's needs.

A. Improving access

12. The current "received wisdom" is to bring service delivery closer to the people — through decentralization; and to expand options for service delivery — through increased partnership. While there is general consensus that central government should promote the well-being of all people, the merits of decentralization and partnership are also increasingly recognized. Decentralization has the potential to increase the reach of social services, to improve access to them, particularly among isolated individuals and groups, and to encourage empowerment of recipients, who are more likely to be able to affect service delivery that is organized closer to where they live. A more decentralized, participatory system can create serious administrative challenges, however, and increases the need for information-sharing. Coordination of activities becomes very important, to avoid duplication and waste, and to ensure that individuals and groups are not left out.

1. For people living in poverty

13. Improving access to services for people living in poverty is likely to entail some sort of subsidy that is targeted specifically to them. In many countries, the opposite often happens. The major part of public funding in health and education, for example, goes to support expensive activities such as sophisticated curative medical practices

and higher education, whose benefits accrue largely to the better off. With increasing globalization, countries may wish to ensure that such "high tech" services are maintained, in order to avoid a widening "technology gap", but they do not necessarily need to subsidize them, particularly for those people who could afford to pay for them. At higher levels of service provision, such as tertiary education, the returns on investment can be appropriated by the individual — in additional income, for example. The individual may be expected to contribute more for these services, either through the market or through payment of user charges for State provisioning. Public funding should be focused on supporting universal provision of basic services, in an effort to ensure that everyone has access to a minimum basic level of services.

14. While targeting is essential, it is not easy. Many attempts to target subsidies to people living in poverty have ended up diverting benefits to other, less needy people. One proposal for overcoming this was to devise self-selection mechanisms whereby the target population would select themselves to claim the benefit, while others would mostly exclude themselves in their own interest. Essentially, the idea was that the requirements for obtaining subsidized services would be such that wealthier people or groups might find it easier or quicker to buy services elsewhere. Successful examples of self-selection mechanisms are found in the area of credit delivery and in food-for-work programmes. Another method of ensuring proper targeting is to devise institutional mechanisms to involve the population at large in the formulation and implementation of service delivery schemes.

15. When resources are scarce, it may be necessary to charge some fee even to people living in poverty. It is better to ensure universal access to services by charging a small fee than not to provide any services at all because of lack of resources. Introduction of user charges must be carefully monitored, to ensure that they do not exclude particular individuals or groups. However, many times people living in poverty are more able and willing to pay than is generally supposed. Appropriate institutional mechanisms are needed to enable them to pay with a minimum of pain.

16. As it is often difficult for people living in poverty to save up enough to pay for services when they need them, a solution might be to introduce vouchers that may be bought whenever people can afford to do so, and used to pay for services whenever they are needed. Another solution is to employ techniques used by many non-governmental organizations whereby people must save regularly in small amounts as a precondition for receiving services such as credit or training. The savings can be used as a source to finance additional services.

2. Overcoming gender bias

17. To promote universal provision of social services, it may be necessary to reconsider assumptions about who uses services and how they use them, in order to ensure that service provision responds more appropriately to people's needs. Sometimes, assumptions are the result of gender bias. For example, universal provision of basic health care and primary education is not simply a question of providing sufficient infrastructure. If, faced with the need to pay school fees, families continue to prefer to educate sons rather than daughters; if girls are required to perform many household chores which interfere with their schooling; if parents keep daughters at home because of fear for their safety when they send them to school; if women continue to have to sacrifice their own needs in order to provide for their children — then women will not be able to take advantage of any level of service provision. Also, because of gender-ascribed roles, many women must balance multiple responsibilities

in caring for families and earning a living. Provision of services must take into account this need to balance responsibilities. If health clinics operate only at times when many women must work, then when a child becomes sick and needs to see a doctor, a woman may have to choose between her job and her child's health.

3. Encouraging greater participation by beneficiaries

18. It may be possible to improve access to and utilization of social services by under-served groups by ensuring that these groups acquire more of a say in setting priorities for those services and in evaluating outcomes. While professional or technical skills are essential for providing quality services, it is also important to ensure that services reflect the knowledge and interests of beneficiaries who are expected to use them. Provision that ignores local conditions or the experience and desires of local populations is likely to result in inappropriate, underutilized services. It is also important to recognize that the experience gained by local people through their involvement in decision-making about service provision can help them to realize their own potential and thus empower them.

B. Improving information

19. Improving the effective and efficient delivery of social services and expanding their reach to all people in society will require a great deal more information for everyone involved. This includes improving information-gathering, statistics and data for policy makers and planners, and improving access to information for consumers and service users. Currently, in many places it is difficult for planners to ascertain needs and set priorities because they lack reliable data. Even the most basic data, such as records of births and deaths at community levels, are often lacking. It is extremely important to have local indicators in order to guide resource allocation and to help in setting national priorities. Yet transforming raw data into sensible indicators can be a costly, time-consuming exercise. Independent bodies such as ombudsmen, rating agencies and advocacy groups can help perform this function. Social indicators are most helpful at the national level in clarifying domestic priorities; however, because of differences among countries, there is often little value in comparing such indicators across countries.

20. Well-functioning information systems also make it easier for beneficiaries to influence decision-making and the planning process. Their knowledge is important and should not be overlooked; delivery systems that attempt to respond to user needs are more likely to be successful. Finally, information systems must also be used to inform beneficiaries of what services are available. Where many service options exist, consumers need to be informed of their choices. It is insufficient to organize services and expect people, particularly the disadvantaged, to take advantage of them. They must be informed of services and sometimes helped to utilize those services.

C. Globalization and technological innovation

21. The effects of globalization can be felt in every country. Globalization can have positive benefits when economies and societies become more open to experience, innovation and technical improvements brought in from elsewhere. Foreign investment can spur national development, and some of the resources generated can be used to support expanded social services. At the same time, however, Governments can face a reduced capacity for maintaining the revenue base if they fear that industries may

leave or not come when taxes are levied, and competition can lead to downward harmonization in the provision of services and social protection measures.

22. Great new opportunities are provided by the rapid pace of innovation in communication, transportation and information technologies. Development *today* is clearly not — if it ever was — a linear process and the possibility of "leapfrogging" the technology for providing social services can be a promising way to amass vast amounts of human capital in a relatively short time. Modern technology can provide greater coverage, and a reach and access to social services opportunities beyond what is available now. Hence, distance learning via satellite or video technology, for example, can enable schools to educate large numbers of pupils without first having to train a vast pool of teachers. Distance learning can also benefit people living in isolated areas, or those with little time to devote to attending school, or people with disabilities who may not be physically able to travel to schools. Similarly, tele-medicine can benefit people in faraway places by bringing to them expertise once available in only the most advanced hospitals.

23. There are also challenges posed by the use of technology in social services delivery. The introduction of expensive technology can leave those who are without access or unskilled in the particular technology totally out of the service domain. Hence, when new technologies are introduced, there is an acute need to plan carefully and to implement strategies for access and training in the new technologies. There is also a need to consider innovative ways to fund the introduction of new technologies in areas that lack the resources to purchase them on their own.

D. Disparities between rich and poor

24. Another aspect of new communications technologies is that they enable people in countries all over the world to have a glimpse of life in faraway places. The increased awareness thus provided can lead to rising expectations for a better life, and demands for improved services. There have always been disparities between rich and poor; yet, in today's world, the fact that those disparities are more readily apparent to more people creates at least the perception that disparities are growing. The amount of wealth controlled by a very small number of people, and the rise of a new class of global billionaires, raise important questions of fairness and social responsibility which have not been sufficiently addressed. Some of the issues that might be addressed include the following: when single individuals or corporations have more wealth than entire nations, what is their ability to affect global politics and commerce? Are there special responsibilities inherent in the possession of tremendous wealth, and should there be? Is philanthropy expected, and is the practice of philanthropy harmful or beneficial?

E. Situations of war and conflict

25. Increasingly, situations of war and conflict occur not between or among countries, but within them. These situations have created enormous destruction and resulted in great numbers of refugees and displaced persons. Conflict has destroyed infrastructure needed to deliver services, while it increases the need for just such services to help people reconstruct their lives and livelihoods.

IV. Resources and finance

26. All States should ensure that free or subsidized universal services of certain basic kinds, such as primary health care and primary education, are provided to everyone. Implementing the Copenhagen Programme of Action to provide high-quality social services for all will be an expensive proposition. It will tax the financial and organizational capacities of many countries and will require tremendous political commitment.

27. There is a perception that Governments of developing countries cannot possibly afford to pay for universal provision of social services. It should be recognized that lack of development often underlies a lack of services, and it should be acknowledged that economic growth is essential to generate resources for expanding services for all. At the same time, provision of social services, and the resulting development of human capital, are essential prerequisites of economic growth. Currently, on average, Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development countries devote approximately 14 per cent of their gross domestic product to services for health and education, and they have not yet been able to achieve universal access to high-quality services in these areas. Other countries, with fewer resources, face a daunting challenge. Yet it is also important to note that the resources that are potentially available to meet people's needs are not just financial and that service provision could be greatly improved through more efficient and effective delivery. As has been demonstrated by past experience, universal provisioning of services should not be beyond the financial capacity of even the least developed countries. One reason is that these services are essentially labour-intensive, and labour is inexpensive in these countries. In fact, the less developed the country, the cheaper it is to provide these services.

28. Public resources will likely remain scarce relative to needs. Thus, in order to reach the goal of social services for all it will be necessary both to use those public resources as efficiently as possible and to complement them with funds from other sources. In turn, this will require setting clear and sensible priorities, streamlining public institutions, improving transparency in decision-making, expanding the array of non-governmental service providers, introducing innovative financing modalities, improving system coordination and oversight, empowering consumers and aligning the incentives of the various participants in the system in socially desirable ways.

29. While not an easy undertaking, it should also be possible in most countries for Governments to reallocate expenditures from other sectors so as to provide greater funding for social services. It should also be possible to reallocate resources within the social sectors to support areas deemed to be priorities. Funding can be shifted from supporting expensive medical care to providing basic health care. for example, so as to decrease inequities and ensure greater access with the same level of resources. New resources will need to be tapped as well — from the public sector through new taxes and borrowing, from the private sector and civil society, and from users, where appropriate, through introduction of user fees and co-payment schemes. It is probably not possible, in most places, to increase public funding of social services without increasing the tax burden. In considering increased taxation it is essential to study carefully the incidence of additional taxes, and to ensure that new taxes are not regressive or serve to increase inequalities. Further action should also be taken to reduce the debt burden faced by developing countries. Resources currently spent on debt service could be more appropriately spent on social services.

30. Innovative approaches to making service provision more efficient, such as better utilization of existing infrastructure, provision of services at times that are more appropriate to consumers and bundling several services in one location, are worth careful consideration.

V. International cooperation and assistance

31. There are several important areas in which international cooperation and assistance could contribute to countries' abilities to provide universal access to social services. Primary among them, and reflected in the Copenhagen Programme of Action, is the area encompassing the effort to foster an enabling international environment for social development. Such an environment should create conditions in which all countries can experience economic growth which can, in turn, generate resources for provision of social services. More immediate and direct assistance can also be provided to strengthen the supply of resources available for service provision, including alleviating debt burdens for developing countries and increasing official development assistance to reach agreed targets.

32. International cooperation should extend to sharing information in addition to financial resources. Efforts could be made to arrange mechanisms for pooling information on best practices; such mechanisms would assist in spreading helpful information and experience, and in reducing the cost of innovation in many countries. In many developing countries, data collection is still uneven at best; international assistance to support national efforts should be encouraged.

33. In order to speed innovation in service delivery, greater efforts could be made to transfer technologies among countries, with particular emphasis given to providing cost-effective technologies to developing countries. The goal should be to enable all countries to be better able to take advantage of new techniques for extending coverage of social services. Strengthening mechanisms for the transfer of technology should be considered.

34. Finally, the United Nations system and other international organizations should continue efforts to establish benchmarks and minimum standards for social service delivery, and to implement agreed international targets for social development. Benchmarks and standards need to take into account national and local circumstances, experience and traditions. They could be used by policy makers and planners to integrate best practices from around the world into national efforts to provide universal access to basic social services for all.

Moderator's summary of the panel discussion on youth

Results of the first World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth and the third session of the World Youth Forum of the United Nations System

The members of this panel discussed the results of the World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth (Lisbon, Portugal, 8–12 August 1998) and of the third session of the World Youth Forum of the United Nations System (Braga, Portugal, 2–7 August 1998), in particular the follow-up to the implementation of the

World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond, adopted by the General Assembly in 1995; the Lisbon Declaration on Youth Policies and Programmes, adopted by the World Conference; and the Braga Youth Action Plan, adopted by the third session of the World Youth Forum of the United Nations System in 1998. Follow-up action by Member States, non-governmental organizations, agencies and organizations of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental organizations was discussed, including possible action to be taken by the Assembly at its fifty-fourth session in 1999 based on the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond (A/54/59) and of the action taken by the Economic and Social Council on the recommendations of the Commission for Social Development at its thirty-seventh session.

Expression of gratitude to the Government of Portugal and to the Portuguese National Youth Council for hosting respectively the Conference and the Forum and related issues

The panellists especially thanked the Government of Portugal and the Portuguese National Youth Council for hosting respectively the Conference and the Forum. The Government of the Netherlands was also commended for its generous donation to the United Nations Youth Fund which enabled regional youth preparatory meetings for the third session of the World Youth Forum of the United Nations System to be held in 1998 in cooperation with United Nations regional commissions. The informal Bureau of Member States (two from each of the General Assembly's five regions) which assisted in the preparatory process of the Conference was especially noted by the panellists as well as the contributions to this process of non-governmental youth organizations.

Priority concerns reflected in the discussion

During the course of the discussion, the following broad issues were raised:

- The achievements of the Conference and the Forum by bringing youth issues to the attention of the international community;
- The gravity of youth problems globally and the necessity for fund-raising to address youth problems;
- That youth should be seen as part of the solutions and not always as the source of problems;
- That policy makers should be encouraged to promote youth participation in all aspects of life;
- That the various youth-related agencies and organizations of the United Nations system should strengthen inter-agency cooperation to alleviate youth problems;
- That the effects of globalization on youth and the strategy to deal with that problem should be reviewed at national level;
- The linkages of youth issues with other social policies and problems of society;
- Integrating the youth agenda in national development programmes of Member States.

Recommendations of the panellists and the discussion

The panellists and the discussion:

- Put emphasis on the follow-up and recommended the need for inclusion of youth issues in national development plans;
- Recommended that future World Conferences of Ministers Responsible for Youth should be under the aegis of the United Nations as per paragraph 123 of the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond and noted the value added by the meetings of the World Youth Forum of the United Nations System as per paragraph 125 of the Programme of Action through identifying and promoting joint initiatives to further the objectives of the Programme of Action so that they better reflect the interests of youth;
- Also recommended that the Youth Unit of the United Nations Secretariat should be strengthened both financially and with increased staff to better support this process of reviewing and appraising the Programme of Action;
- Emphasized the need for youth participation in policy formulation and implementation;
- Encouraged youth-related agencies and organizations of the United Nations system to actively coordinate their respective youth policies and programmes and establish United Nations youth theme groups to strengthen such inter-agency cooperation at the country level;
- Recommended that representatives of the governmental ministry responsible for youth and the non-governmental national youth coordinating body should be involved in all aspects of the work of such United Nations youth theme groups, especially concerning assistance for a national youth policy and programme of action;
- Noted the need to have projects on national youth policies supported at regional levels and re-emphasized the role of the regional commissions in providing advisory services on national youth policies to Member States, upon request;
- Observed that a plan of action that would force a paradigm shift and make decision makers sensitive to the needs of youth was still needed, and noted that such a plan of action should be better related to the preparatory process for the review of the implementation of the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development, as a follow-up to the Summit, as well as the review of the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond;
- Emphasized that the responsibility of Governments was to give the appropriate responses to the aspirations of young people, who should be seen as resources, rather than as problems;
- Also emphasized that input from youth was needed to ensure that their needs and views were reflected in all levels of policy development;
- Affirmed that national youth policy was not meant simply to support the existing order, but to transform society;
- Emphasized that this was the challenge in following up the Lisbon and Braga conferences on youth held in 1998.

Dialogue with non-governmental organizations segment

61. At its 5th and 10th meetings, on 11 and 17 February, the Commission held dialogues with non-governmental organizations. At the 5th meeting, on 11 February, presentations were made by the following non-governmental organizations: American Association of Retired Persons, International Federation of Settlements and Neighborhood Centres, International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, School Sisters of Notre Dame, International Cooperation for Development and Solidarity, and the International Federation for Home Economics.

62. At the 10th meeting, on 17 February, presentations were made by the following non-governmental organizations: Third World Institute - Social Watch; International Council on Social Welfare; International Movement ATD Fourth World; Pax Christi, International Catholic Peace Movement; World Movement of Mothers; and BUSCO-Business Association for the World Social Summit.

63. At the same meeting, the Chairman made a statement.

Chapter III

Programme questions and other matters

1. The Commission considered item 4 of its agenda (Programme questions and other matters: (a) Programme performance and implementation; (b) Proposed programme of work for the biennium 2000–2001 (c) United Nations Research Institute for Social Development) at its 11th and 13th meetings, on 18 and 19 February 1999. The Commission had before it the following documents:

(a) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development covering the period from 1997 to 1998 (E/CN.5/1999/9);

(b) Note by the Secretary-General on the nomination of members of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (E/CN.5/1999/10);

(c) Note by the Secretariat on the proposed programme of work of the Division for Social Policy and Development for the biennium 2000–2001 (E/CN.5/1999/L.2).

2. At the 11th meeting, on 18 February, the Director of the Division for Social Policy and Development, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, made an introductory statement.

3. At the same meeting, the Director of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development made an introductory statement.

4. Also at the 11th meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Germany (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are member of the European Union), Pakistan, Jamaica, Swaziland and the Philippines as well as the observer for Mexico.

5. At the 13th meeting, on 19 February, statements were made by the representatives of Germany (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union) and Cuba.

6. At the same meeting, the Commission agreed that the following views expressed should appear in the report under agenda item 4:

(a) Information was sought regarding the number of expert group meetings and their outputs, as well as on the status of the Braga Youth Action Plan adopted by the third session of the World Youth Forum of the United Nations System;

(b) A recommendation was made that the fifth sentence of paragraph 4 of the annex to document E/CN.5/1999/L.2, entitled "Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000–2001 for the Division for Social Policy and Development, Department of Economic and Social Affairs", should read "Assistance will be provided to the follow-up to the Lisbon Declaration on Youth Policies and Programmes adopted at the World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth in August 1998, on request, *inter alia*, by enhancing international cooperation among Governments";

(c) A recommendation was made that, in paragraph 7 (d) (i) a of the annex, Technical cooperation (regular budget/extrabudgetary): advisory services, a reference be added to the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond;

(d) A recommendation was made that, in paragraph 7 (d) (i) a, the words "and the Braga Youth Action Plan adopted by the third session of the World Youth Forum of the United Nations System" be deleted.

Action taken by the Commission

Renomination of members of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development

7. At the 11th meeting, on 18 February, on the proposal of the Chairman, the Commission decided to renominate, for confirmation by the Economic and Social Council, the following candidates for membership in the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development for a further two-year period ending on 30 June 2001: Harris Mutio Mule (Kenya), Valery Tishkov (Russian Federation), Björn Hettne (Sweden), Frances Steward (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) and Jonathan Moore (United States of America) (see chap. I, sect. C, decision 37/101).

Nomination of one new member of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development

8. At the same meeting, the Commission nominated Jacques Roger Baudot (France) as a new member of the Board, for a four-year term beginning on 1 July 1999 and expiring on 30 June 2003 (see chap. I, sect. C, decision 37/101).

Documents considered in connection with programme questions and other matters

9. At the 13th meeting, on 19 February, on the proposal of the Chairman, the Commission took note of the report of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (E/CN.5/1999/9), the note by the Secretary-General on the nomination of members of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (E/CN.5/1999/10) and the note by the Secretariat on the proposed programme of work of the Division for Social Policy and Development for the biennium 2000–2001 (E/CN.5/1999/L.2) (see chap. I, sect. D, decision 37/105).

Chapter IV

Provisional agenda for the thirty-eighth session of the Commission

1. At its 12th meeting, on 19 February 1999, the Commission considered item 5 of its agenda. The Commission had before it a note by the Secretariat containing the draft provisional agenda for the thirty-eighth session, together with a list of requested documentation (E/CN.5/1999/L.9).

2. The Commission decided to approve the provisional agenda for the thirty-eighth session of the Commission, together with the list of requested documentation (see chap. I, sect. B, draft decision).

Chapter V

Adoption of the report of the Commission on its thirty-seventh session

1. At the 13th meeting, on 19 February 1999, the Vice-Chairman-cum-Rapporteur introduced the draft report of the Commission on its thirty-seventh session (E/CN.5/1999/L.7), which he corrected orally.

2. The Commission then adopted the report and entrusted the Vice-Chairman-cum-Rapporteur with its completion.

Chapter VI
Organization of the session

A. Opening and duration of the session

1. The Commission for Social Development held its thirty-seventh session at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 9 to 19 February 1999. The Commission held 13 meetings (1st to 13th) and a number of informal meetings.

B. Attendance

2. In accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/7 of 22 July 1996, the Commission is composed of 46 States Members of the United Nations, elected on the principle of equitable geographical distribution.

3. The session was attended by 46 States Members of the Commission. Observers for other States Members of the United Nations and for non-member States and representatives of specialized agencies and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations also attended. A list of participants is given in annex I to the present report.

C. Election of officers

4. At its 1st meeting, on 9 February, the Commission elected by acclamation Mr. Aurelio Fernández (Spain) as Chairman.

5. At the same meeting, the Commission elected the following officers:

Vice-Chairpersons:
Ms. Faith Innerarity (Jamaica)
Ms. Maria Lourdes Ramiro-Lopez (Philippines)
Ms. Joanna Wronecka (Poland)
Mr. Mathe Diseko (South Africa)

6. At its 10th meeting, on 17 February, the Commission elected Mr. Mathe Diseko (South Africa) as Vice-Chairman-cum-Rapporteur by acclamation.

D. Agenda

7. At its 1st meeting, on 9 February, the Commission adopted its provisional agenda for the session (E/CN.5/1999/1).

The agenda was as follows:

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development:
   (a) Priority themes:
      (i) Social services for all;

(ii) Initiation of the overall review of the implementation of the outcome of the Summit;

(b) Review of relevant United Nations plans and programmes of action pertaining to the situation of social groups.

4. Programme questions and other matters:

(a) Programme performance and implementation;

(b) Proposed programme of work for the biennium 2000–2001;

(c) United Nations Research Institute for Social Development.

5. Provisional agenda for the thirty-eighth session of the Commission.

6. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its thirty-seventh session.

E. Organization of work

8. At its 1st meeting, on 9 February, the Commission approved its organization of work for the session (see E/CN.5/1999/L.1).

F. Opening statement

9. At the 1st meeting, on 9 February, the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs addressed the Commission.

G. Documentation

10. The documents before the Commission at its thirty-seventh session are listed in annex II to the present report.

H. Special presentations

11. At its 1st meeting, on 9 February, the Commission held a special presentation on the "Follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development". The following made presentations: Mr. Federico Mayor, Director-General, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization; and Ms. Carol Bellamy, Executive Director, United Nations Children's Fund.

12. The Commission held a general exchange of views with the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund.

Expert panel discussion on social services for all

13. At the 2nd meeting, on 9 February, the following members of the expert panel on social services for all addressed the Commission: Dr. Funmi Togonu-Bickersteth (Nigeria), Dr. Nawal Ammar (Egypt), Dr. Siddiqur Rahman Osmani (Bangladesh) and Ms. Sylvia Saborio (Costa Rica). Mr. Aurelio Fernández, Chairman of the Commission, acted as moderator.

14. Members of the Commission held a general exchange of views with the panel members.

Panel on youth

15. At the 12th meeting, on 19 February, the following members of the panel on youth addressed the Commission: Ms. Filomena Martins (Portugal), Mr. Percival M. Mofokeng (South Africa), Ms. Anita Amorim (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization/New York), Mr. Daraka Larimore-Fall (International Union of Socialist Youth) and Mr. William Angel (Department of Economic and Social Affairs/New York). Ms. Joanna Wronecka, Vice-Chairperson of the Commission, acted as Moderator.

Address by the Chairman of the Preparatory Committee for the Special Session of the General Assembly on the Implementation of the Outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and Further Initiatives

16. At the 13th meeting, on 19 February, Mr. Cristian Maquieira, Chairman of the Preparatory Committee for the Special Session of the General Assembly on the Implementation of the Outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and Further Initiatives addressed the Commission

Non-governmental organizations dialogue segment

17. At its 5th meeting, on 11 February, the Commission held a non-governmental organizations dialogue. The following made presentations: American Association of Retired Persons; International Federation of Settlements and Neighborhood Centres; International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU); School Sisters of Notre Dame; International Cooperation for Development and Solidarity; and International Federation for Home Economics (IFHE).

18. At its 10th meeting, on 17 February, the Commission held another non-governmental organizations dialogue segment. The following made presentations: International Council on Social Welfare; Third World Institute-Social Watch; International Movement ATD Fourth World; Pax Christi, International Catholic Peace Movement; World Movement of Mothers; and BUSCO-Business Association for the World Social Summit.

I. Consultations with non-governmental organizations

19. In accordance with rule 76 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council (E/5975/Rev.1), representatives of the following non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Council made statements:

General consultative status

American Association of Retired Persons, International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, International Council on Social Welfare, International Movement ATD Fourth World

Special consultative status

Centro di Ricerca e Documentazione Febbraio 74 (CERFE), Commission of the Churches on International Affairs of the World Council of Churches, Foundation for the Rights of the Family (PRODEFA), International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies, Mani Tese '76, Pax Romana

20. Written statements submitted by non-governmental organizations are listed in annex II to the present report.

Annex I

Attendance

Members

Algeria:	Abdallah Baali, Djamel Saïdani, Abdelkader Mesdoua, Dalila Samah, Amina Mesdoua
Argentina:	Andrés Cisneros, Fernando Petrella, Ana Maria Ramirez, Ricardo Luis Bocalandro
Belarus:	Olga Dargel, Alyaksandr Sychov, Natalia Zhilevich, Igar Gubarevich
Cameroon:	Marie Madeleine Fouda, Martin Belinga Eboutou, Cathérine Mahouve Same, Emmanuel Meka Meka, Emmanuel Akono Ndo, Cécile Bomba Nkolo, Joseph Marie Fouda Ndi
Canada:	Ross Hynes, Louise Galarneau, Lin Buckland, Marthe St-Louis, Keltie Patterson
Chile:	Juan Larraín, Cristián Maquieira, Eduardo Gálvez, Eduardo Tapia
China:	Qin Huasun, Yu Wenzhe, Sun Zhonghua, Jiang Qing, Xiao Caiwei, Li Sangu, Heping, Yin Qi
Croatia:	Vera Babić, Ivan Šimonović, Ana Balaband, Marina Musulin, Mladen Cvrlje, Jasminka Dinić, Ivan Nimac, Tania Valerie Raguž
Cuba:	Bruno Rodríguez Parilla, Rafael Dausá Cespédes, Roberto Robaina Gonzalez, Mercedes de Armas, Rodolfo Reyes Rodriguez, Mirtha Hormilla Castro, Tania Montesino
Democratic People's Republic of Korea:	Li Hyong Chol, Choe Myong Nam
Dominican Republic:	Cristina Aguiar, Julia Tavares de Álvarez, Lourdes I. Salcedo, Elda M. Cepeda
Ecuador:	Germán Ortega, Mónica Martínez
Finland:	Marjatta Rasi, Aino-Inkeri Hansson, Reijo Väärälä, Matti Kääriäinen, Riitta Resch, Ralf Ekebom, Johan Schalin, Anna Gebremedhin, Soili Kangaskorpi, Ronald Wiman, Olli Saarela, Tula Yrjölä
France:	Annie Ormonde Calan, Didier Le Bret, Marine de Carne
Gabon:	Denis Dangue Réwaka
Gambia:	Baboucarr-Blaise Ismaila Jagne
Germany:	Gerhard Henze, Edith Niehuis, Wolfgang Linckelmann, Christoph Linzbach, Andreas Kirner, Gero Jentsch, Achim Holzenberger, Dietrich Willers, Birgit Zeitz, Ruth Brand, Carola Donner-Reichle, Dirk Jarré, Partricia Flor, Peter Felten, Beatrix Brodkorb
Guinea:	Zoumanigui Paul Goa
Haiti:	Pierre Lelong, Wilfrid Suprena, Maryse Narcisse, Nicole Romulus
India:	Kamalesh Sharma, Gautam Mukhopadhaya

Iran (Islamic Republic of):	Bagher Asadi, Mohsen Esperi, Amir Hossein Hosseini
Jamaica:	M. Patricia Durrant, Faith Innerarity, Cherryl Gordon
Japan:	Masaki Konishi, Takeshi Kamitani, Misako Kaji, Toshiyuki Takahashi
Malawi:	David Rubadiri
Malta:	Joseph Scicluna, George Saliba, Gaetano Brincau, Elaine Miller, Anton Tabone, Pierre Hili
Mauritania:	Mahfudh Ould Deddach
Morocco:	Ahmed Snoussi, Aicha A. Afifi
Nepal:	Bhola Nath Chalise, Paras Ghimire
Netherlands:	Koos N. M. Richelle, Henk C. V. Schrama, Gerard van Rienen, Paul Peters, Eline Scheper, Karin Wester, Marit van Zomeren, Jaap Doek
Pakistan:	Ahmad Kamal, Tayyab Hassan, Munawar Saeed Bhatti
Peru:	Ana Peña
Philippines:	Felipe Mabilangan, Maria Lourdes V. Ramiro Lopez, Linglingay F. Lacanlale, Libran N. Cabactulan, Violeta V. David, J. Edgar E. Ledonio
Poland:	Kazimierz Kapera, Irena Boruta, Eugeniusz Wyzner, Joanna Wronecka, Irena Kowalska, Jaroslaw Strejczek, Dariusz Karnowski
Republic of Korea:	Suh Dae-won, Bae Young-han, Cho Jeong-ho, Ma Young-sam, Kim Sun-dong, Lee Hyung-hoon
Romania:	Simona Marinescu, Ion Gorita, Victoria Sandru
Russian Federation:	A. Lebedev, S. A. Sukharev, A. A. Nikiforov, K. M. Barskiy
South Africa:	Mathe Matthews Diseko, Percival M. Mofokeng
Spain:	Inocencio F. Arias, Arturo Laclaustra, Hector Maravall, Teresa Mogin, Aurelio Fernández, Manuel Porras, Rafael Diaz, Silvia Cortes
Sudan:	Mubarak Rahmtalla, Shahira Hassan Ahmed Wahbi, Ilham Ibrahim Mohamed Ahmed
Swaziland:	Moses M. Dlamini, Nonhlanhla Mlangeni
Sweden:	Ewa Persson Goransson, Hans Lundborg, Margareta Foyer, Lars Blomgren, Gunilla Malmborg, Bjorn Jonzon, Niklas Wiberg, Catharina Ekelof, Per Augustsson, Klas Nyman, Lars Pettersson
Thailand:	Asda Jayanama, Apirath Vienravi, Chaksuda Chakkaphak
Turkey:	Yusuf Isik, Ahmed Arda
Uganda:	Matia Mulumba Semakula Kiwanuka, Juliet D. Kalema, Odyek Agona, N. Odaga Jalomayo
United States of America:	Betty King, Seth Winnick, Mirta Alvarez, Charles Chang, David Hohman, Peggy Kerry, Kim Lawlor, Lynette Poulton, David Shapiro, Elizabeth Mullen

Venezuela: Ignacio Arcaya, Norman Monagas-Lesseur, Lyda Aponte de Zacklin

States Members of the United Nations represented by observers

Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Iraq, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Mali, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Namibia, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Panama, Paraguay, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia

Non-member States represented by observers

Holy See, Switzerland

Entities having received a standing invitation to participate as observers in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly and maintaining permanent observer missions at Headquarters

Palestine

Specialized agencies

International Labour Organization, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, World Health Organization, International Monetary Fund, United Nations Industrial Development Organization

Other entities having received a standing invitation to participate as observers in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly and maintaining permanent offices at Headquarters

Sovereign Military Order of Malta

United Nations bodies

Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, Joint and Co-sponsored United Nations Programme on Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (HIV/AIDS) (UNAIDS), United Nations Development Programme, United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat), United Nations Children's Fund, United Nations Population Fund, United Nations Research Institute for Social Development

Intergovernmental organizations represented by observers

European Community, International Organization for Migration, Organization of African Unity

Non-governmental organizations

General consultative status

African-American Islamic Institute, Al-Khoei Foundation, Franciscans International, Greek Orthodox Archdiocesan Council of North and South America, International Chamber of Commerce, International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU), International Cooperative Alliance, International Council of Women, International Council on Social Welfare, International Federation of Associations of the Elderly (FIAPA), International Federation of Settlements and Neighborhood Centres, International Federation on Ageing, International Movement ATD Fourth World, International Union of Family Organizations (IUFO), International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations (ISMUN), World Confederation of Labour, World Conference on Religion and Peace, World Organization of the Scout Movement, World Veterans Federation, Zonta International

Special consultative status

Advisory Commission of the Evangelical Church in Germany (AKD), AFS Inter-Cultural Programs, Inc., Baha'i International Community, BUSCÓ Business Association for the World Social Summit, Canadian Council of Churches, Caritas Internationalis, Centro di Ricerca Documentazione Febbraio 74 (CERFE), China Disabled Persons' Federation (CDPF), Christian Aid, Comité catholique contre la faim et pour le développement (CCFD), Commission of the Churches on International Affairs of the World Council of Churches, Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd, Disabled People's International, Federation of Associations of Former International Civil Servants (FAFICS), Friends World Committee for Consultation, Foundation for the Rights of the Family (PRODEFA), General Confederation of Trade Unions, Global Education Associates, Human Appeal International, Inclusion International, Institute of Global Education, International Association for Impact Assessment, International Association of Schools of Social Work, International Catholic Union of the Press, International Cooperation for Development and Solidarity, International Federation for Home Economics, International Federation of Social Workers, International Federation of University Women, International Research Foundation for Development, International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies, Italian Centre of Solidarity, Mani Tese' 76, Netherlands Organization for International Development Cooperation, Pax Christi, International Catholic Peace Movement, Pax Romana, Public Services International, Rehabilitation International, School Sisters of Notre Dame, South American Commission for Peace, Regional Security and Democracy, World Alliance of Young Men's Christian Associations, World Information Transfer, World Movement of Mothers, World Student Christian Federation, World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations, World Young Women's Christian Federation, World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations, World Young Women's Christian Assocaition (World YWCA)

Roster

Armenian International Women's Association, Armenian Relief Society, Carnegie Council on Ethics and International Affairs, Council on International and Public Affairs, Friedrich Ebert Foundation, Gray Panthers, Institute for Planetary Synthesis, Instituto de

Analises Sociais e Economicas (IBASE), International Humanist and Ethical union, International Women's Tribune Centre, Movement for a Better World, SERVAS International, Third World Institute, UNDA-Catholic International Association for Radio and Television, United Church of Christ-Board for World Ministries, United Methodist Church/General Board of Global Ministries, World Organization for Early Childhood Education.

Other non-governmental organizations accredited to the World Summit for Social Development

All Africa Students Union, Child Welfare League of America, Citizens' Coalition for Economic Justice, Congregation of St. Joseph, David M. Kennedy Center for International Studies/NGO Family Voice, European Solidarity Towards Equal Participation of People-EUROSTEP, EZE-Evangelishe Zentralstelle für Entwicklungs Hilfe, Federación Argentina de Apoyo Familiar, Fédération internationale des petits frères des pauvres, Foundation for African Development through International Biotechnology, Foundation for Public Interest, Green Earth Organization, Instituto Social y Politico de la Mujer, International Agency for Economic Development, International Association for Advancement, Inc., International Association for Counseling, International Union for Land Value Taxation and Free Trade, International Urban Development Association, Iranian Islamic Women's Institute, National Council of Women of the United Nations, National Council on Social Welfare of Thailand, National Union of Ghana Students, Nigeria United Nations Association, Paz y Cooperación (Peace and Cooperation), Service and Research Foundation of Asia on Family and Culture, Solidar, United Nations Association of the United States of America, United Neighborhood Centers of America, Inc., Vrouwen Aliantie, Women's Health and Economic Development Association (WHEDA) Nigeria, World League for Freedom and Democracy.

Annex II

List of documents before the Commission at its thirty-seventh session

Document number	*Agenda item*	*Title or description*
A/54/57	3	Report of the Secretary-General on the status and role of cooperatives in the light of new economic and social trends
A/54/59	3	Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond
A/54/62	3	Note by the Secretary-General on the World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth
A/54/66-E/1999/6	3	Letter dated 11 February 1999 from the Permanent Representative of Senegal to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General
E/CN.5/1999/1	2	Annotated provisional agenda
E/CN.5/1999/2	3 (a) (i)	Report of the Secretary-General on social services for all
E/CN.5/1999/3	3 (a) (ii)	Report of the Secretary-General on further initiatives for the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development
E/CN.5/1999/4	3 (a) (ii)	Report of the Secretary-General on preliminary assessment of the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development
E/CN.5/1999/5	3 (b)	Interim report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons
E/CN.5/1999/6	3 (a)	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the workshop on ensuring access to social services of under-served populations
E/CN.5/1999/7	3 (a)	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the expert workshop on innovations in the delivery and financing of social services
E/CN.5/1999/8	3 (b)	Note by the Secretary-General on the International Year of Older Persons and follow-up arrangements
E/CN.5/1999/9	4 (c)	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development, covering the period from 1997 to 1998

E/CN.5/1999/10	4 (c)	Note by the Secretary-General on the nomination of members of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development
E/CN.5/1999/11	3 (a) (i)	Letter dated 21 December 1998 from the Permanent Representative of Germany to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the report of the international expert meeting on social services for all
E/CN.5/1999/12	3 (b)	Letter dated 25 January 1999 from the Permanent Representative of Portugal to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the Braga Youth Action Plan and working group reports
E/CN.5/1999/13	3 (a) (ii)	Letter dated 29 January 1999 from the Permanent Representative of Viet Nam to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General
E/CN.5/1999/14	3 (b)	Letter dated 5 February 1999 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General
WCMRY/1998/28		Report of the World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth, Lisbon, 8–12 August 1998
E/CN.5/1999/L.1	2	Note by the Secretariat on the organization of work of the session
E/CN.5/1999/L.2	4 (b)	Note by the Secretariat on the proposed programme of work of the Division for Social Policy and Development for the biennium 2000–2001
E/CN.5/1999/L.3	2	Note by the Secretariat on the status of documentation for the session
E/CN.5/1999/L.4	3 (a) (i)	Elements for the agreed conclusions of the Commission on the follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development: priority theme: social services for all, submitted by the Vice-Chairperson of the Commission, Faith Innerarity (Jamaica)
E/CN.5/1999/L.5	3 (b)	International Year of Older Persons, 1999: towards a society for all ages: draft resolution
E/CN.5/1999/L.6	3 (b)	Policies and programmes involving youth: draft resolution
E/CN.5/1999/L.7	6	Draft report of the Commission on its thirty-seventh session
E/CN.5/1999/L.8 and Corr.1	3 (a) (ii)	Elements for the agreed conclusions of the Commission on the initiation of the overall review of the implementation of the outcome of the Summit: draft text submitted by the Bureau of the Commission

E/CN.5/1999/L.9	5	Provisional agenda and documentation for the thirty-eighth session of the Commission
E/CN.5/1999/NGO/1	3 (a) (ii)	Statement submitted by the World Information Transfer, Inc., a non-governmental organization in special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council
E/CN.5/1999/NGO/2	3 (a) (ii)	Statement submitted by the International Federation of Social Workers, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status with the Economic and Social Council
E/CN.5/1999/NGO/3		Not issued
E/CN.5/1999/NGO/4	3 (a) (ii)	Statement submitted by the following non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council: Greek Orthodox Archdiocesan Council of North and South America; HelpAge International; International Council of Women; International Federation of Business and Professional Women; Soroptimist International; Zonta International (general); All India Women's Conference; Associated Country Women of the World; Caritas Internationalis; Foundation for the Rights of the Family (PRODEFA); International Catholic Child Bureau; International Confederation of Christian Family Movements; International Council of Jewish Women; International Council of Psychologists; International Federation of University Women; International Kolping Society; Italian Centre of Solidarity; New Humanity; Pax Romana (International Catholic Movement for International and Cultural Affairs) (International Movement of Catholic Students); Salvation Army; SOS-Kinderdorf International; World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts; World Movement of Mothers (special); International Association of Charities; European Union of Women; International Inner Wheel; International Round Table for the Advancement of Counselling (Roster)
E/CN.5/1999/NGO/5	3 (b)	Statement submitted by the International Federation on Ageing, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status with the Economic and Social Council
E/CN.5/1999/NGO/6	3 (a) (ii)	Statement submitted by the Foundation for the Rights of the Family (PRODEFA), a non-governmental organization in special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council
E/CN.5/1999/NGO/7	3 (b)	Statement submitted by the American Association of Retired Persons, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status with the Economic and Social Council
E/CN.5/1999/NGO/8	3 (a) (i)	Statement submitted by the International Association of Schools of Social Work, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council

E/CN.5/1999/NGO/9	3 (a) (ii)	Statement submitted by Pax Christi International, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council
E/CN.5/1999/NGO/10	3 (a) (ii)	Statement submitted by Pax Romana, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council
E/CN.5/1999/NGO/11	3 (a) (ii)	Statement submitted by the International Movement ATD Fourth World, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status with the Economic and Social Council

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